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# REPORT

OF THE

## NATIVES LAND COMMITTEE, WESTERN TRANSVAAL.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Excellency  
the Governor-General.*

Price 2s. 6d.

CAPE TOWN:  
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1918.

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UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

**Report of the Natives Land Committee,  
Western Transvaal.**

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Excellency the  
Governor-General.*

To the Honourable, the Minister of Native Affairs.

We, the undersigned, members of the abovenamed Committee, having been appointed under Government Notice No. 1093 of August 15th, 1917, have the honour to submit our report, in accordance with the instructions set forth in the said Notice.

Your Committee was appointed on the recommendation of the Select Committee on Native Affairs, with the following terms of reference and instructions:—

“To enquire further into and report

- (a) as to the suitability or otherwise of the areas included in the Schedule of the Native Affairs Administration Bill;
- (b) as to the adequacy or otherwise of those areas;
- (c) as to the desirability of setting apart other demarcated areas for inclusion in the Schedule in cases where the scheduled areas appear to be unsuitable or inadequate;
- (d) as to the exclusion from the schedule of such areas as are not required for the purposes of native areas;
- (e) as to the demarcation of areas to which by reason of existing conditions of occupation by natives as well as non-natives it is not practicable to apply at present, or for some years to come, prohibitive measures affecting the purchase, hire, or other acquisition of land.

On Tuesday, 14th August, 1917, a meeting of the Chairmen of the various local Natives Land Committees was held at the Union Buildings, Pretoria, when the Minister in charge of Native Affairs, Sir Jacobus Graaff, and the Minister of Mines, the Honourable F. S. Malan, were present.

After a welcome had been extended by the Ministers, Mr. Malan intimated that as he had been a member of the Select Committee on Native Affairs, and thus more acquainted with this particular matter than Sir Jacobus Graaff, he would make a statement as to the Government's views and requirements. (See Annexure I.)

On the said meeting of the Chairmen it was decided that any person interested, both European and Native, Associations and Companies, should communicate in writing any representations in regard to, or objecting to, the areas—native or non-native—appearing in the Schedule of the Native Affairs Administration Bill, such communications to reach the Committees before a certain fixed date. (See Government Notice No. 1093, dated 15.8.17).

The date of closure for the Committee of the Western Transvaal was fixed on the 30th September, 1917.

The Committee held its first meeting at Pretoria on the 5th September, 1917, when, it being found that very few representations had come forward, it was decided to adjourn to the 18th instant, and the Secretary was instructed to reply to any applications to give evidence, that places and dates for this purpose would be fixed later on, and due notice given to applicants through the several Magistrates in the districts concerned.

At the second meeting of your Committee, *i.e.*, on the 18th September, 1917, after the various correspondence of those wishing to give evidence had been read and discussed, the following itinerary was agreed upon:—

To leave Pretoria for Zeerust .. .. .	October 4th, 1917.
To visit Native Areas in Marico District .. .. .	5, 6 and 8 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Zeerust .. .. .	9 and 10 <i>idem</i> .
To leave Zeerust to inspect Native Areas in Rustenburg District ..	11, 12 and 13 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Rustenburg .. .. .	15 and 16 October, 1917.
To leave Rustenburg for Kuruman .. .. .	17 <i>idem</i> .
To inspect Kuruman Native Areas .. .. .	19 and 20 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Kuruman .. .. .	22 and 23 <i>idem</i> .
To visit Vryburg District .. .. .	25, 26, 27 and 28 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Vryburg .. .. .	29 and 30 <i>idem</i> .
To leave Vryburg for Cornforth Hill Estates .. .. .	31 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Cornforth Hill Estates .. .. .	1 November, 1917

and the Secretary was instructed to notify all Magistrates concerned, requesting them to circularize their districts, and notify all persons interested, that the Committee would take evidence on the fixed dates. The meeting then adjourned to the 3rd October, 1917, on which date any further representations would be discussed.

Your Committee duly met on the appointed date, and subsequent representations having come in from the Boshof, Potchefstroom and Lichtenburg districts, the itinerary was extended as follows:—

To proceed from Cornforth Hill Estates and take evidence at Klein Boetsap .. .. .	2 November, 1917.
To proceed from Klein Boetsap to Kimberley .. .. .	3 <i>idem</i> .
To visit Native Area II, Division of Herbert .. .. .	5 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Boshof .. .. .	7 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Potchefstroom .. .. .	8 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Ventersdorp .. .. .	9 <i>idem</i> .
To take evidence at Lichtenburg .. .. .	12 <i>idem</i> .
And return to Pretoria .. .. .	13 <i>idem</i> .

Your Committee left Pretoria on the 4th October, 1917, and all members personally visited and inspected the several native areas in question, and the proposed itinerary was carried out in full, as will be seen from the evidence taken, a copy of which is attached hereto, together with copies of all documents put in by witnesses, which are not embodied in the evidence; and also a list of the witnesses, and maps showing the several native areas as now recommended by your Committee.

After having thoroughly considered and weighed all the evidence, and also influenced as much by what it saw and conversationally learned during its travels your Committee now recommend the following alterations, or otherwise, in the delimitation of the different native areas scheduled in the Native Affairs Administration Bill, for reasons more fully set forth in the appended Schedules I., II., and III.

Where no recommendations have been made in regard to any special area in the Schedule, your Committee concurs with the recommendation made by the Natives Land Commission.

In conclusion, your Committee wishes to express regret at the delay in handing in its report, but it would respectfully bring to your notice that the Secretary received very little assistance from the Department, and alone had to do all clerical work in connection with the report, including taking down the evidence, and all typing and translation.

And further, it must be pointed out that after your Committee had practically completed its labours the Department submitted complaints received from the district of Mafeking, stating that no chance was given to those interested in that area to give evidence, and notwithstanding the fact that no representation or objections whatever had come forward from that direction, the committee decided, even at that late hour, viz., beginning of February, to give the inhabitants of the Mafeking district an opportunity of expressing their views on the schedule of the Bill, which, of course, occasioned further delay.

(Sgd ) L. A. S. LEMMER,  
Chairman.

H. S. THERON.

W. S. SCOTT.

D. KLEYN,  
Secretary.

Dated at Cape Town, this 16th day of February, 1918.

## ANNEXURE 1.

## MEMORANDUM.

On Tuesday, 11th August, 1917, a meeting of the Chairmen of the various Local Natives Land Committees was held at the Union Buildings.

Present: Sir Jacobus Graaff, Minister in Charge of Native Affairs;  
 Hon. F. S. Malan, Minister of Mines;  
 W. C. Scully, Esq., Cape Committee;  
 General L. A. S. Lemmer, West Transvaal Committee;  
 E. T. Stubbs, Esq., East Transvaal Committee;  
 G. C. McKenzie, Esq., Natal Committee;  
 H. F. B. Papenfus, Esq., Orange Free State Committee;  
 E. Barrett, Esq., Acting Secretary for Native Affairs, and  
 R. S. Medford, Esq., Department of Native Affairs.

After a welcome had been extended by the Ministers, Mr. Malan intimated that as he had been a member of the Select Committee on Native Affairs, and thus more acquainted with this particular matter than Sir Jacobus Graaff, he would make a statement as to the Government's views and requirements.

The following is a resumé of Mr. Malan's statement.

In 1913 Parliament passed a Natives Land Act in terms of which:

- (a) Certain areas were set apart within which only Natives had the *right* to buy land or acquire interests in land; in those areas non-Natives could buy or acquire interest in land *with the Governor-General's* consent.
- (b) Certain areas were set apart within which only non-Natives had the *right* to buy land or acquire interests in land; in those areas, however, Natives could buy from Natives, or,—*with the Governor-General's consent*—from non-Natives.
- (c) A Commission was to be appointed whose duty would be, after enquiry, to report what areas should be set apart as "Native Areas," and what as "non-Native Areas."
- (d) Parliament would then make other provision.

The restrictions imposed on the traffic in land and land rights were therefore regarded as temporary pending the Commission's report and action thereon by Parliament.

The Commission—known as the Natives Land Commission—was appointed but, owing to the European War and the Rebellion in South Africa, was unable to complete its labours within the statutory period of two years fixed by the Act, and an extension of one year was granted by Parliament.

In May, 1916, the report of the Commission was laid before Parliament.

In January, 1917, the Government published for general information the Native Affairs Administration Bill, which it proposed to introduce during the forthcoming Session—a Bill proposing to repeal the temporary measure of 1913, and embodying the result of the labours of the Natives Land Commission, and the future Native policy of the Government.

The Native Affairs Administration Bill was duly introduced during the 1917 Session, passed its second reading, and referred to the Select Committee on Native Affairs.

That Committee, although sitting daily, was unable to deal with the Bill fully during the Session and, as will be seen from the Committee's report, considered that the Native Areas scheduled in the Bill—those areas being the Native Areas recommended by the Natives Land Commission—required investigation *in loco*.

That being so the Committee recommended the appointment of local Committees for such an investigation on certain lines.

The Government has accepted the Select Committee's recommendation, and the result is the appointment of the Committees of which you gentlemen are the Chairman.

Each of you has a draft of the terms of reference and instructions, which the Government proposes to issue to the local Committees.

Before passing on to them I wish it clearly to be understood that the policy embodied in the Bill does *not* come within the scope of the Committees, and they must regard the policy as having been endorsed by Parliament by the second reading.

The duties of the Committees are therefore to be confined to the specific terms of reference.

As regards the Cape Province it is true that the Appellate Court has decided that the Natives Land Act is not applicable to that Province, but the Committees dealing with land in the Cape must nevertheless carry out the terms of reference just as if the Act does apply.

Coming now to the terms of reference paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) are clear, and need no amplification, but the Government has laid down certain factors which the Committees must take into consideration in dealing with those paragraphs. These factors



are not to be considered as the sole ones, and the Committees may, of course, in their discretion give weight to other facts which may be brought before them in evidence or otherwise.

As regards paragraph (c) I must say that evidence was placed before the Select Committee tending to show that the ideal aimed at, namely, the bringing about of actual separate "Native Areas" and "non-Native Areas," with different laws applicable to them, might not be practicable for some years to come, inasmuch as there might be portions of the Union where the ownership or occupation of land by Natives and non-Natives is at present of such a nature that it would be difficult to decide at the moment whether the land should be recommended as a "Native Area" or a "non-Native Area."

Paragraph (c) therefore places upon Committees the duty of considering whether there are such areas which may for the present be regarded as, so to say, "Neutral," but which may ultimately later on be more properly declared "Native" or "non-Native."

If the Committees do think there should be such "Neutral" areas, then they are asked to suggest what restrictive laws with regard to the purchase, hire, or occupation of land should be enforced in them.

In considering the question of "Neutral" areas the Committees are not to recommend certain classes of land as such, *e.g.*, any of the areas scheduled under the Natives Land Act, 1913, or any land in the Orange Free State, and it must be borne in mind that "Neutral Areas" are purely a passing phase, and that in course of time should become definitely "Native" or "non-Native."

The Government has not thought it necessary to request the Committees to visit each Native Area,—that is left to their discretion—as in a number of instances there is no conflict of opinion.

The Government leaves the Committees free to arrange their own procedure, itineraries, etc., but as their reports will be required for submission to Parliament during the next Session it is hoped that they will be able to complete their labours before the end of the year.

## SCHEDULE 1. CAPE PROVINCE.

### AREA No. 1, DISTRICT OF MAFERING.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 238,945 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, 46,264 morgen.
3. Total extent of Area No. 1, 285,209 morgen.

*Description.*—The area comprising the Molopo Native Reserve and the First Railway Grant, Act 23 of 1893, C.O.M.2. 70.

*Reasons.*—After having heard and considered evidence on this Area, and also from the evidence taken by the Commission, this area, as now defined, appears to be quite suitable and adequate.

There is only a population of some 12,000 natives, having about 9,000 head of cattle and 23,000 sheep and goats, so that reckoning on the same basis as below in the case of Area No. 3, the extent is more than large enough for the Natives there, also for the future.

### AREA No. 2, DISTRICT OF MAFERING.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 82,533 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, nil.
3. Total extent of Area No. 2, 82,533 morgen.

*Description.* The Area comprising the Setlagoli Native Reserve.

*Reasons.*—On the evidence of Mr. de Kock (see Appendix "A"), and also from the evidence taken by the Commission, the Committee thought it desirable to exclude from the recommended areas in the Schedule of the Bill the farms Latham, Wodehouse Kraal and the Setlagoli Crown Reserve. It is found that the Setlagoli Native Reserve is more than sufficient also for the future for the wants of the native population there, and there is no reason why such valuable properties as Latham and Wodehouse Kraal and the Setlagoli Crown Reserve should be given as additional area.

Area No. 2 as now defined is more than 82,000 morgen in extent, carrying a native population of approximately 6,000 souls, with 1,500 head of cattle and 4,000 sheep and goats, and from these figures it is quite evident that about double the number of natives with their stock could make a good living here.

### AREA No. 3, DISTRICT OF VRYBURG.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 217,923 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, 450,747 morgen.
3. Total extent of Area No. 3, 668,670 morgen.

*Description.*—The Marokwen Native Reserve, Setaben Crown Reserve, the farms Havant, Campden and Ikley, from the north-west beacon of Ikley, along the boundaries of and including the farms due south and the Henning Vlei Reserve, thence from the north-west beacon of Clifton southwards along the boundaries of and including the farms



Berwick, Tay and the Madebing Native Reserve, and then from the south-eastern beacon of the Madebing Reserve all along the Mashowing River to the south-eastern beacon of the Linopen Reserve, and from there north-eastwards in a straight line to the western beacon of the farm Dittlaradentsi, and thence due north to the south-eastern beacon of the Marokwen Native Reserve.

*Reasons.* 1. There is no doubt that the area as described above is to be preferred to Area No. 1, as recommended by the Commission. It will be seen from the evidence that it is specially suitable for stock farming, and water is much shallower there than in the portion to the north of the Marokwen Native Reserve. All witnesses, both European and Native, are unanimous as to the suitability of this area for the natives of this district, and the Committee has no hesitation in recommending the alteration.

2. According to the available figures, *i.e.*, 2,300 native families having 26,000 head of cattle and about 70,000 small stock, and calculating on the basis that a native family requires 4 morgen for lands and 4 morgen per head of cattle or 4 small stock, this area as now defined will be found more than adequate for the native population, even in the far future. But as remarked in the case of the district of Kuruman, the Committee feels that some areas should be so established, that room will also be found for natives from outside, who may wish to settle in these areas.

#### AREA No. 4.

To remain the same as Area No. 5, recommended by the Commission.

#### AREA No. 5 (AREA No. 6 OF THE SCHEDULE), DISTRICTS OF KURUMAN AND VRYBURG.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 210,146 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, 455,311 morgen.
3. Total extent of Area No. 5, 665,457 morgen.

*Description.*—From the north-western beacon of the farm Penryn, district Kuruman, generally eastwards, south-eastwards and north-westwards along the boundaries of and including the following farms and Reserves: Penryn, Ruthven, Padstow, Dawlish, Chickenwood, Morpeth, Shipton, Bendell, Koboga (District Kuruman), Gamarona Native Reserve, Detseping Native Reserve, Motition Native Reserve (District Vryburg), Witnesham, White Ladies, Tsamaros, Baily-brith, Letchulachu, Tlaring, Mahuramuthla, Chester, Hartebeestbult, Durham, Masaditontein, Grootvlakfontein Native Reserve, Maryhill, Essex, Cornwall, Tsimami, Hazeroth, Aoud, Manyeding Native Reserve, Harvard, Yale, Kuruman Crown Reserve (excluding the Township of Kuruman and Commonage of 8,000 morgen approximately attached thereto, and that portion from the western beacon of Pallhane to the south corner beacon of Thamoanche, and from there to the north beacon of Lambley, called Gamobaan), Lower Kuruman Native Reserve, extension of Lower Kuruman Native Reserve, Kooroon and Penryn (District Kuruman), to the place of beginning.

*Reasons.* 1. After having heard the several witnesses, and also from personal inspection, the Committee thought fit to exclude from area 6 of the Schedule that portion of the Kuruman Crown Reserve more fully defined in the above schedule. It was felt that the town of Kuruman was absolutely in need of this portion, and the Municipality had already taken all necessary steps to extend the townlands in this direction, with a view to closer settlement of whites along the Kuruman River, where the Natives on the whole were not making any beneficial use of the magnificent water supply and soil. Moreover, steps have been taken to compensate the Natives now living there for any loss they may sustain in being shifted from their present homes.

2. The Committee being convinced that Area No. 5 is more than large enough for the natives, also for the future, and upon urgent pressure of the owners of Gamalilio and Ventersrust, could have no reasonable objection in excluding these two farms, on which the owners had made great improvements.

3. There is no doubt that this area is very suitable for stockfarming, and to a certain extent also for agriculture, and the only drawback is the prevalence of Gall-lamziekte.

4. Taking into consideration the native population in area No. 5 being only 14,000, possessing not more than 1,400 head of cattle, and approximately 28,000 sheep and goats, and also the fact that the population is rather decreasing than increasing, as will appear from the evidence, it is clear that this area is even more than adequate; for, as we have already demonstrated, a native family requires about 1 to 5 morgen of land for cultivation, and for his stock at the utmost 4 morgen per head of cattle or 4 small stock. There is therefore ample room in this area for natives from outside, for whom no provision could be made near to where they are now living.

#### AREA No. 6, DISTRICT OF KURUMAN.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 12,480 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, nil.
3. Total extent of Area No. 6, 12,480 morgen.

*Description.*—The area comprising the Kono Native Reserve.

*Reasons.*—After having heard all the evidence, and especially that of the Reverend Brown, Missionary of the Mission Station at Kuruman, who intervened on behalf of the [U.G. 23—'18.]

native population of that district, your Committee would seriously recommend that this Native Reserve be made into a Native Area. The Reserve was granted to the Batlapins by the British Government at the time as a reward for their loyalty and help in suppressing the native rebellion, and it would hardly be fair to now place this ground in a White Area.

#### AREA NO. 7, DISTRICT OF KURUMAN.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 72,189 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, 3,850 morgen.
3. Total extent of Area No. 7, 76,039 morgen.

*Description.* The area comprising the Gathlose Native Reserve, the Maremane Native Reserve and the farm Legoko.

*Reasons.*—The Committee finds that it can only accept the recommendation of the Commission. There is no question as to the suitability, from the very fact that the natives themselves in the olden days have chosen this spot for their home, there being plenty of water and fertile soil. Although it may appear that in the far future the area may become somewhat narrow, the Committee feels that enough ground has been allowed for the natives of this district in Area No. 5, to which also these natives may take refuge should they become overpopulated, and it cannot therefore recommend any addition to Area No. 7.

It is true these natives belong to different tribes, and it is not customary for them to mix with others, but the Committee feels that in time to come the native, like the European, will have to learn to suit himself to circumstances, and should his home become too small for himself and family, he will have to look for pastures new, even among strangers, to satisfy his wants.

#### AREA NO. 8, DISTRICTS OF VRYBURG AND BARKLY WEST.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 222,118 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, 109,577 morgen.
3. Total extent of Area No. 8, 331,695 morgen.

*Description.* From the south-western beacon of the farm Dwaalvlakte, district Vryburg, generally north-eastwards, south-eastwards and south-westwards along the boundaries of and including the following Reserve and farms: Taungs Native Reserve, Highlands, Modimo, Taungs Native Reserve, Tlapeng, Tweelingpan, Panmure, Kokuning, Taungs Native Reserve and Witpan (District Vryburg), to the south-eastern beacon of the last-mentioned farm, thence generally southwards down the middle of the Harts River to the south-eastern beacon of Mamotte Location (District Barkly West), thence generally north-westwards along the boundaries of and including the following locations and farms: Mamotte Location, Likatlong Location, the farms Kookfontein, 17 N.O., 16 N.O., 15 N.O., 15 O.P., 15 P.Q., 14 P.Q., to the western beacon of the farm 14 P.Q. (District Barkly West), thence north-eastwards along the Barkly West district boundary to the south-western beacon of Taungs Native Reserve (District Vryburg), thence generally north-eastwards along the boundary of and including Taungs Native Reserve to the place of beginning.

*Reasons.*—1. The Committee, after long consideration, has decided to leave this area as defined in the Schedule, notwithstanding the fact of Mr. Thompson's appeal to exchange certain of his properties, whereby the area would undoubtedly become more suitable for the required purpose, owing to the barrier of which he speaks being taken away.

As the exchange of land does not come within the scope of your Committee, it lies with the Government to consider Mr. Thompson's proposal, and should the Government deem fit to enter into same, the Committee will offer no objection, but would make such recommendation.

2. Judging from the evidence, and also from personal inspection, the area is found most suitable for the natives. There are large tracts of land along the Harts River suitable for cultivation, and also for grazing, and if proper dams be constructed along this valley, it would be able to carry a very large population in closer settlement. Then the grazing on the hills (Kaapse Berg) is second to none, and although the stockfarmer is hampered by the prevalence of Gall-lamziekte, he has the opportunity of taking his cattle to the Harts River valley, where this dreaded disease does not occur. For small stock it would be difficult to find a more suitable area.

3. The area is more than adequate, even if we take it that a native family requires 11 morgen of ground to make a living here, as stated by Mr. Thompson in his evidence. According to this calculation, and the available figures of the population of Barkly West and Taungs Native Reserve, viz.: 7,000 families, not more than 77,000 morgen of land is required at present, and nearly four times that area is still available for any increase in the population or influx from elsewhere.

## AREA NO. 9, DISTRICT OF VRYBURG

1. Extent of scheduled area, 11,957 morgen.
2. Extent of additional area, nil.
3. Total extent of Area No. 9, 11,957 morgen.

*Description.*—The area comprising the Takwanen Native Reserve.

*Reasons.*—The reasons given under Area No. 6 apply.

## SCHEDULE II., TRANSVAAL PROVINCE.

## AREA NO. 8, DISTRICT OF MARICO.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 136,212 morgen, 266 square roods.
2. Extent of additional area, 92,162 morgen, 443 square roods.
3. Total extent of Area No. 8, 228,375 morgen, 109 square roods.

*Description.*—From the north-western beacon of the farm Schuijsdam No. 131, district Marico, generally westwards along the Transvaal Provincial boundary to the north-eastern beacon of the farm Braklaagte No. 158, thence generally southwards, westwards and southwards along the boundaries of and including the following farms in Marico district: Braklaagte No. 158, Vinkrivier No. 152, Hartbeestfontein No. 195, Schoonlaagte No. 250, Kaufontein No. 249, Zwartkoplontein No. 328, Buitenkuij No. 244, Witkleigat No. 273, Driehoek No. 21, Driefontein No. 36, Witfontein No. 1, Brakpan No. 200, Buispoort No. 319, Welverdiend No. 201, Dam van Metsugo No. 54, Matjesvallei No. 205, to the south-western beacon of the last-named farm, then generally south-westwards, north-westwards and westwards along the boundary of Moiloa's Location to its south-western beacon, thence generally northwards along the Transvaal Provincial boundary to the place of beginning.

*Reasons.*—The Committee finds that this area is quite suitable for its purpose. It has come to this conclusion both from personal investigation and inspection, and also from the evidence taken.

Notwithstanding the various alterations suggested by several witnesses, which were duly considered by the Committee, it could come to no other conclusion than that none of these suggestions could improve on the recommendations of the Commission. This decision is substantiated by the following facts:—

1. The available figures show that the native population in this district is rather decreasing than increasing. From the Census it would appear that the native population in 1904 was 19,232, and in 1911 had decreased to 18,590. Further, the Native Commissioner in his report to the Select Committee in 1916 states that there are about 16,200 Natives living in and outside area 8.

It is proved from the evidence that although one half of the stock of the Natives, say, 6,000 head of cattle and 9,000 sheep and goats (figures available), are said to graze outside the Moiloa Reserve, there is still a large portion of ground in this Reserve which is not being beneficially utilized, and, therefore, an additional area of 92,162 morgen would appear quite sufficient to meet the requirements. If we take it that a Native family (averaging 7 souls) requires 55 morgen in all to make a living (see evidence Mr. Steyn), then the whole native population of 16,200 of this district would require in all *ca* 127,000 morgen of ground, which is about half of what has been recommended. This proves that even if the native population should increase in the future, and those natives now working among the whites as labourers return to the Locations (which is very improbable), there will still be sufficient land in the area to meet their wants for many years to come. Moreover, it appears that the native's great drawback is want of water for watering his cattle, but all over this area there is ample occasion for making dams, if he would only exert himself to do so.

In some places very large dams could be constructed, *e.g.*, at Papierspoort, at the native village Motsoedi on the farm Rietfontein, and at the poort between Linokana and Schildpad. If dams were constructed at these places, there would be every facility for closer settlement, and it would provide for at least four times the number of natives at present living there.

## AREA NO. 9, DISTRICTS OF MARICO AND RUSTENBURG.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 98,862 morgen, 187 square roods.
2. Extent of additional area, 465,100 morgen, 436 square roods.
3. Total extent of Area No. 9, 563,963 morgen, 23 square roods.

*Description.*—From the north-western beacon of the farm Buifelsdrift No. 709, district Rustenburg, generally south-eastwards, north-eastwards, south-eastwards and south-westwards, along the boundaries of and including the following farms: Buifelsdrift No. 709, Welgevonden No. 459, Smalldale No. 458, Lisbon No. 457, Tusshenkoms No. 448, Gausvlei No. 111, Roodebloem No. 442, Welbezorgd No. 441, Distriktshoek No. 440, Bloemdal [17.11. 23—18.]



No. 439, Rhenosterkop No. 1048, Syferkuil No. 372, Holfontein No. 593 (portion Saulspoort Location), Wittfontein No. 215, Vogelstruiskraal No. 347, Kraalhoek No. 516, Varkvlei No. 903, Furtbult No. 999, Spitskop No. 298, Nootgedacht No. 281, Haakdoornfontein No. 469, Koedoesspruit No. 672, Elandslaagte No. 809, Vygeboomspruit No. 1003, Ramakokskraal No. 307, Geluk No. 279 (Ramakoks Location), Elandstontein No. 510, Hartebeestlaagte No. 724, Elandslaagte No. 809, Lapatrie No. 1031, Zandfontein No. 729, Doornpoort No. 251, Saulspoort No. 269 (portion of Saulspoort Location), Koedoestontein No. 818, Legkraal No. 726, Oliventontein No. 745, Schaapkraal No. 12, Welgevel No. 749, Government Ground No. 156, Vogelstruisnek No. 602, Palmietfontein No. 567, Bakhoutrandje No. 1039, Bultfontein No. 712 (Diederik Mogale's Location), Tweelaagte No. 180, Gevonden No. 925, Davidskuil No. 112, Mabieskraal No. 620, Putstontein No. 559, Koedoesrand No. 844, Lemoenplaats No. 845, Zwartdoornlaagte No. 603, Leeuwkuil No. 250, Silverkrans No. 884, Grootfontein No. 301 (Mototse Tholwe Location), Vrede No. 650, Turtlaagte No. 113, Zandfontein No. 390, Kortloof No. 539, to the southern beacon of the last named farm, thence generally northwards along the district boundary to the south-eastern beacon of the farm Rooikoppiesfontein No. 123, district Marico, thence south-westwards, northwards, south-westwards, north-eastwards, and eastwards along the boundaries of and including the farms Rooikoppiesfontein No. 123, Stryfontein No. 124, and Zilkadskop No. 122, to the north-eastern beacon of the lastmentioned farm, thence northwards along the district boundary to the place of beginning.

1. *Reasons.*—The Committee unanimously decided to exclude the farms Riekersdam No. 204, Zamenkomst No. 88, Straatsdrift No. 173, and Koppieskraal No. 272, from Area No. 9.

After having heard all the witnesses and having inspected these farms in loco, it was quite clear to the Committee that these properties were much too valuable, and far too highly improved to be included in a Native Area. In this locality there is one of the best opportunities of carrying out an irrigation scheme, and when this is done a large population of whites could be placed there in closer settlement.

2. The Committee deemed it necessary, after inspection and hearing the evidence, to also recommend the exclusion of the farms Holfontein No. 667, Syferfontein No. 625, Rietfontein No. 927, Blinkklippen No. 638, Uitval No. 967, Doornspruit No. 391, and Middelm No. 968, for similar reasons, *i.e.*, these farms, with the exception of Blinkklippen, are highly developed and a large number of white families make a good living there (see evidence of G. J. van Tonder and Others). Notwithstanding Mr. van Tonder's statement that crops are of secondary consideration, the farmers here go in largely for irrigation and good crops of wheat, tobacco and mealies are harvested.

The Committee feels sure, and it is clear from the evidence, that if farms like these were included in the Native Area, and in time to come are purchased by natives, which is very doubtful, the improvements will be neglected and go to wreck and ruin, as the native, as a rule, does not irrigate, but solely depends on drylands.

3. Also in regard to the exclusion of the farm Varkfontein, the above stated reasons apply. (See evidence of Behrens, Smit, Topper, and others).

4. In including the farms to the north of Area 9, and Ramakoks Location and adjoining farms to the west, which have been recommended by nearly all witnesses as an additional area to the recommended area, in case the Committee decided to exclude the farms mentioned under 1, 2, and 3, we find that the area as now defined is extremely suitable, being the pick of the district for stock-farming and also for drylands. Water is easily obtainable in this area, and suitable places for dams are to be found everywhere. (See evidence taken on this area), and, therefore, the Committee could not recommend that the farms along the Crocodile River, as suggested by some of the witnesses, be declared a native area, and even more so because the river farms are too far away, and, in the opinion of the Committee, more than sufficient ground has already been allotted for the wants of the natives of this district.

5. From the evidence it is clear that in this district a native family requires approximately 5 morgen of ground for lands, and 4 morgen of grazing ground is sufficient per head of cattle, or 4 head of small stock. Now it appears from the available figures that if we take the present native population of this district at 53,000, and their stock at 34,000 head of cattle and 103,000 sheep and goats, the area recommended, ca 646,000 morgen, would be able to carry double the number of natives in this district to-day, so that the Committee has no hesitation in saying that the area, as at present recommended, is, and will be, adequate for years to come, and will even allow for a large influx of natives from elsewhere.

#### AREA NO. 14, DISTRICT OF RUSTENBURG.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 62,764 morgen, 380 square rods.
2. Extent of additional area, 13,101 morgen, 545 square rods.
3. Total extent of Area No. 14, 75,866 morgen, 325 square rods.

*Description (a).*—From the north-western beacon of the farm Ledig No. 744, district Rustenburg, generally eastwards, south-eastwards and north-westwards, along the boundaries of and including the following farms: Ledig No. 744, Styldrift No. 583, Hartebeest-



spruit No. 643, portion Rhenosterfontein No. 887 (south of Elands River), Hartebeest-spruit No. 643, Goedgedacht No. 369, Klipgatkop No. 869, Diepkuil No. 383, Bierkraal No. 493, portion of Rooiwal No. 751, Tweedepoort No. 189, Elandsheuwel No. 285, Klipgat No. 834, Turffontein No. 397, Klipfontein No. 538, Turffontein No. 397, Klipgat No. 834, Elandsheuwel No. 285, Reinkoyalskraal No. 333, Vlaktfontein No. 430, Vaalkop No. 677, Kookfontein No. 337, Goedgedacht No. 200, Bierfontein No. 432, Turffontein No. 397, Uitvalgrond No. 334, eastern half portion of Boschkopje No. 685, Styldrift No. 583, and Ledig No. 744, to the place of beginning.

(b) The area including the farms Zanddrift No. 886, Haakbosch No. 340, and Honingfontein No. 571.

*Reasons.*—After having heard the evidence the Committee agreed to exclude the farms Wildebeestfontein and Boschfontein from the area recommended by the Commission. There is no doubt that the town of Rustenburg would greatly profit in the future by improvements which could be made on these two farms, especially in regard to the water supply, and it would certainly be disadvantageous to the town to cut off these farms into a Native Area.

The area is extremely suitable for the wants of the native, and what is hereinafter said in regard to Area No. 15 also applies to this Area.

#### AREA NO. 15. DISTRICT OF RUSTENBURG.

1. Extent of scheduled area, 25,334 morgen, 40 square roods.
2. Extent of additional area, 13,372 morgen, 275 square roods.
3. Total extent of Area No. 15, 38,706 morgen, 315 square roods.

*Description.*—From the north-western beacon of the farm Welgevonden No. 267, generally south-eastwards, westwards and north-westwards, along the boundaries of and including the following farms: Welgevonden No. 267, portion of Zanddrift No. 920, western portion of Losperfontein No. 119, western portion of Wolvekraal No. 512, western portion of Kareepoort No. 623, Kafferskraal No. 597, portion of Boschfontein No. 381, Modderspruit No. 697, Turffontein No. 356, Wonderkop No. 835, Boschpoort No. 841, Beestekraal No. 503, portion of Waalkraal No. 206, to the place of beginning.

*Reasons.* This area is known to be very suitable for native occupation, and has been inhabited by natives for years and years. The exchange of land which has now been effected in regard to the Hartebeestpoort Irrigation Scheme, has, your Committee understands, given every satisfaction to the natives here, and further comment as to the suitability is, therefore, unnecessary.

In regard to the adequacy, the area as now defined is somewhat larger in extent than the area recommended by the Commission, and from the available statistics of the native population and their stock, which is reckoned at approximately 6,500 souls possessing 5,000 head of cattle and 15,000 sheep and goats, it is evident that the area as defined above will be found somewhat narrow in the future. But considering what has been said in regard to Area No. 9, when provision was made for the whole native population of this district together with their stock, the Committee does not feel justified in adding anything more to this area. The natives there will certainly complain and say that they do not wish to shift and mix with other tribes, but, as already repeatedly explained, the time will come when they will have to intermingle, as in the case of the white man.

#### DISTRICT OF POTCHEFSTROOM.

After having heard the evidence, and taking into consideration the recommendations made by the Resident Magistrates of Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp, your Committee came to the conclusion that certain native areas should be established in the Potchefstroom district, and has decided to recommend the following to be native areas:—

1. The farms Quaggaslaagte No. 66, and Dunbar No. 154.

Total extent of Area, 3,816 morgen, 327 square roods.

2. The area comprising the farms Doornkop No. 156, Welgevonden No. 413, Kogel No. 32, Geedgevonden No. 724, Boschhoek No. 199, Zwartkop No. 605, Hartbeestlaagte No. 417, Government Ground No. 75, Government Ground No. 119, Government Ground No. 116.

Total extent of Area, 27,470 morgen, 553 square roods.

3. The area comprising the farms Palmietkuil No. 666, Elandsfontein No. 665 (Monaakhotla's Location), and Booyskraal No. 670.

Total extent of Area, 13,112 morgen, 356 square roods.

4. The area comprising that portion of the Evaton Estates Extension Township north of Union Road East (excluding only the portion south of Union Road East), portion of Evaton Small Farms to the north of Selborne Road, and 210 acres of grazing ground attached to the Evaton Estates Extension Township.

Total extent of area, 1,356 morgen. (Approximately).

*Reasons.*—These areas have been so selected because of the fact that they consist for the greater part of farms either owned or occupied by natives, showing that the areas are suitable for the required purpose.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

In regard to the (voldoenheid) adequacy of these areas, the Committee is not of opinion that they are sufficient for the future wants of the natives of this district, who number in all approximately 39,000 souls, but it was felt that the natives here, not desiring to quit the district, to which they are very much attached, have even hired and are at present occupying various farms throughout the district belonging to whites; and should the Act come into force they would be compelled to shift from there with their stock to other parts, if the above provision had not been made.

With reference to area sub 4, the Committee was approached by those interested, and after having made a personal inspection of the township, and hearing the evidence of Mrs. Adams and Mr. Easton, and also having thoroughly gone into previous representations hereanent made to the Department concerned, unanimously decided to recommend certain portion of the above-named township to be a native area.

The Committee wish to point out that this case is of an exceptional nature. It appears that on the portion recommended there is a native population of some 4,000 souls, who are at present living in almost European style, and, as the evidence will show, these natives are exceptionally law-abiding, and practically no complaints have been received as to their conduct since the inception of this township. Furthermore the natives living here are for the most part detribalized, and employed in the mines and in the town of Johannesburg, where they earn sufficient to provide for their families in a civilized way, and they have no desire to return to the old mode of native life. They have made great improvements on their plots, to the value of about £36,000, and have erected a Trades School, which is well patronized, showing that they intend to remain here and take as much advantage as possible of the facilities of modern civilization.

The Committee thinks that it would be to the advantage of both Europeans and natives to establish a small settlement of natives here.

The Committee is of opinion that the recommended area will meet with the requirements of the natives of this district for the present, as the largest portion of the natives are farm labourers, etc., and would prefer to remain with their masters; but if it be found too narrow at some future date, they will have to emigrate to one or other of the several areas set aside in the other districts of the Union.

Representations have also been made, especially by the Reverends Hill and Burnet, to make the Mission Station Uitkijk with adjoining farms into a native area, but after due consideration the Committee found that under Act No. 27 of 1913, section 8, sub-section (b), and also under section 20 of the Bill, the interests of Native Mission lands are sufficiently safeguarded. One of the areas now recommended is practically adjoining this Mission Station, and gives an outlet to prevent the Station from becoming overcrowded.

#### DISTRICT OF LICHTENBURG.

The areas to remain as recommended by the Natives Land Commission.

*Reasons.*—The Committee has decided to make no alteration in the areas recommended by the above-named Commission.

After having heard all the evidence the Committee was satisfied that the land was quite suitable for the natives of this district.

The total extent of the three areas is approximately 189,000 morgen, with a native population in the whole district of some 14,000 souls, possessing *ca* 8,000 head of cattle and 33,000 sheep and goats. Calculating on the basis adopted for previous districts, a little more than half the extent now set aside would easily provide for the present native population, so that even with a fair increase in the population the total area will be found adequate for years and years to come.

It may seem that the smaller areas 11 and 12 are somewhat narrow for the future, but, as illustrated in other cases, the natives living in these areas will have to suit themselves to circumstances and emigrate to the larger areas should they find the room too small for their wants. It may also be pointed out that there is ample room for improvements in Areas Nos. 11 and 12, and with little trouble they could provide for a much larger community in closer settlement.

### SCHEDULE III.—PROVINCE OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

#### DISTRICTS OF BOSHOFF AND HOOPSTAD.

The Committee has received representations, and has taken evidence of both Europeans and natives, in respect of the above two districts, and after having heard all arguments for and against the establishment of a native area in these districts, could not see its way to make any recommendation for such establishment.

The natives in these parts are mostly farm labourers, and birds of passage coming from all parts of the Union, and belonging to various and different tribes. It is considered that those few who would wish to live in a certain native area could return to the places where they originally came from, or could, if so desired, choose for themselves a home in the numerous recommended native areas all over the Union.



Zeernust, October 9th, 1917.

LOUIS STEPHANUS STEYN, a Farmer, of Schuinsdrift, district Marico, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am not so well acquainted with the proposed Native Area No. 8, but I know the value of land there. I am better acquainted with Area No. 9, and more particularly with the portion situate near my farm.

In regard to Area No. 8, I think that the farms Schuinsdam No. 131, Allewynkop No. 94, Kaufontein No. 249, Zwartkopfontein No. 328, and the other farms up to and including Rietpan No. 270 and Driehoek No. 21, should not be included in this native area. My reasons are that if the railway from Bechuanaland is to come through this part these farms will become invaluable to the white farmer, as he will then be able to send his crops to the markets of the world; moreover, I am of opinion that, considering the future of this country, the natives should not be allowed to live so close together. I would suggest that instead of the above-named farms the following be included in this area: Zandfontein No. 2, Murgfontein No. 193, Langgezocht No. 237, Petrusdam No. 323, and further in the mountainous portion the farms Koptontein No. 262, Slalaagte No. 175. The first-named farm Zandfontein is inhabited by whites.

If this area be so constructed possibly some difficulties may crop up in regard to the administration, but with a view to the proposed construction of the railway from Rustenburg through the bushveld, I am of opinion that it would be better so. I would say that the railway should be constructed from Rustenburg through to Groot Marico and join the Rhodesia line at Ramutsa.

If the natives contend that the land in Area 8, as proposed by the previous Commission, is not suitable for them to live in, they are wrong. The land there is as suitable as possible for the purpose.

As to the adequacy, I think it more than adequate, also with a view to the future, considering the fact that the native population in this district, numbering about 15,000, has during the last ten years had no larger increase than say about 500.

*By Mr. Theron.*] Many improvements have been made on Langgezocht, and the soil is very suitable for dry-land farming.

*By the Chairman.*] The whole area is very suitable for stock farming. The soil is also very suitable for agricultural purposes, and there is every facility for making dams, wells and boreholes.

*By Mr. Scott.*] A native with his family requires about 5 to 6 morgen of ground for agricultural purposes, and about 50 morgen for his cattle. The yield of mealies on 6 morgen per native, with an average rainfall, is about 100 bags, and all the farms in Area 8 are capable of producing so much.

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the proposed Area 9. In my opinion the land next to the river bed, say to the extent of about two farms in depth, should be reserved for the white. This land is too valuable for the native—he is unable to take from the soil what can be had from it. To give you an example: the eastern portion of the farm Zamenkomst No. 88 belongs to and has been occupied by natives since 1907, when a water furrow was constructed by my brother, myself and the natives living there. Portion of this water belongs to the western portion of Zamenkomst, and the other half to the eastern portion occupied by the natives, in all 12 families. They have only brought about 20 morgen of land under cultivation, whereas they could easily have cultivated 150 morgen. Now, on the western portion, occupied by two European families, and where exactly similar conditions of water and arable land prevail, 136 morgen have been properly cultivated. On the portion occupied by natives there are only some kaffir huts and one small brick house to be found, whereas on the other portion a large dwelling house of 12 rooms has been erected, a stable and coachhouse, and two other dwellings containing 5 rooms each.

*By Mr. Theron.*] My experience is that the natives of Zamenkomst only go in for dry lands, and that the furrow is absolutely neglected, and he does not bother about irrigation. The natives living here are under a native Chief. The lands are divided, and the owners employ natives from the towns to work for them. The Chief has everything to say, and he employs labourers. The natives only cultivate very little wheat under irrigation, and nothing else. If the natives could be given good ground somewhere else near to where they are living now, they would be only too pleased, and the land now occupied by them could be given to whites. The native prefers to have his lands on the plains and not next to the river. He dislikes being obliged to make water furrows, and keep these in good condition, as the white man has to do.

About 300 to 400 morgen of Koppieskraal No. 272 belong to natives, but they have not gone in for irrigation, they have only some dry lands. In my opinion Straatsdrift No. 173 and Koppieskraal should not be included in the native area; these farms have only been included on account of the natives living on Koppieskraal. The conditions here are similar to those on Zamenkomst. Koppieskraal at present not being under irrigation is not worth more than £3 per morgen. The portion of Straatsdrift under irrigation is worth from £35 to £50 per morgen. On this farm there are about 400 morgen under irrigation, and 1,816 whites are living there. In 1910 Straatsdrift, Schuinsdrift, Zamenkomst, Riekersdam and Rhenosterfontein produced 10,000 bags of wheat. The total area under irrigation on these farms is 1,720 morgen.

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*By the Chairman.*] A small portion of Rooikoppiesfontein No. 123, Area 9, belongs to natives. A small portion of Zilkaatskop No. 122 belongs to natives, and the remainder to whites. I would suggest including Zilkaatskop and Nootgedacht in the white area, and to include in this native area the farms Strydfontein, Rooikoppiesfontein and Barboonrandjes. This portion belongs to Basutos, and can be separated from other areas.

*By Mr. Scott.*] On Zamenkomist West 13 families could live, and the land under irrigation is worth from £35 to £50 per morgen.

*By Mr. Theron.*] It is possible to have a large irrigation scheme on the Marico River. If a large dam be constructed below Rhenosterfontein 30,000 morgen could be placed under irrigation, right up to Welgevonden, and if worked systematically a large number of poor whites could be placed there.

DANIEL JACOBUS DE WAAL, a farmer, of Kalkpan 271, district Marico, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know the object of the Committee. Area 8 is very suitable land to live on. It is especially adapted to cattle farming, but is not suitable for agriculture. Small stock is now also doing better than formerly. The land can be made suitable for agriculture. Water is mostly procured from boreholes, wells and dams. There is sufficient water, and more than enough for stock farming. Water is to be had everywhere. On Kalkpan suitable places for construction of dams can be found along the river to catch up rainwater. I know Area 8 from Kanfontein No. 249 southwards. I think that the proposed native area is too large, and that the old location is adequate for the natives. I think the Moila Reserve is large enough, but owing to scarcity of water some natives are now living outside the Reserve. In my opinion the natives do not exert themselves to procure water.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I know the southern portion of the Moila Reserve. Where the river goes through Papierspoort is an exceptionally good place for making a dam, and below the poort are very good lands, where a much larger native settlement could be made. If water be stored here, there would be no fear of over-population for at least the next 50 years. My objection to the proposed native area, which is also generally shared by the farmers here, is the proximity to the railway, and in the near future this land will be much sought after and become very valuable, and the district will reap more benefit from it if the land remains in the hands of the whites.

If more trouble be taken to procure and store water the Moila Reserve will, in my opinion, be wholly adequate for the natives.

Farmers here are generally of opinion that their farms falling within the proposed native areas should be expropriated by Government in terms of the Expropriation Act.

PASCOE LAVIS, of Schoonlaagte No. 250, representing the Bushveld Farmers' Association, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Area No. 8 is practically the pick of the Bushveld Ward. Most of the farms here are occupied by whites, principally dairy farmers, and last year approximately 1,500 gallons of cream was sent from Ramutsa Station. These farmers will have to give up dairying if their farms are included in the native area, and go further inland. I would suggest not to include farms near the railway in the native areas, but rather to take farms further inland.

*By Mr. Theron.*] Schuinsdam belongs to a company, and from 750 to 1,000 head of cattle belonging to natives drink there daily. There are several whites from the north of Area 8 sending cream to Ramutsa.

FREDERIK HENDRIK CONRAD TONSIING, a farmer, of Riekersdam, district Marico, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am of opinion that the land in the north-western portion of Area 8 is unsuitable for agriculture, but suitable for cattle. From Kanfontein to the south the land is suitable for agriculture. For that purpose it will be necessary to catch up rainwater in dams. If the principle of segregation is carried out, I think that Area 8 as recommended by the Commission is quite adequate. I would suggest excluding the northern corner of Area 8, and substituting for same the farms due west from Strydfontein (Area 9) towards Area 8, because the natives of Strydfontein belong to the same tribe as those in the Moila Reserve. In my opinion several small locations would work better than larger areas, taking into consideration the political danger.

In regard to Riekersdam and Straatsdrift I consider it a great injustice to the whites living there to include these farms in a native area. The natives in these parts do not apply themselves to agriculture, and although there is plenty of water they do not make beneficial use of it. I concur with Mr. Steyn that these lands are too valuable to be included in the native areas. If the irrigation scheme is carried out these farms will be able to support hundreds of families, as most of the land along the river can be brought under cultivation.

*By Mr. Theron.*] If it is found necessary to add any land to Pella Area I would suggest that Duikerbult, the adjoining Government farm (unnamed), and Vrede be included. This last-named farm has a sufficient supply of water for cattle, beautiful pasturage, and is suitable for dry-land cultivation.



It is desirable that Koppieskraal be inhabited by whites. About 100 natives are living there now, and they only cultivate very little dry-lands, although there is sufficient water for irrigation. I would transfer the natives from Koppieskraal to Zanddrift No. 308 and Toelani No. 154.

If the irrigation scheme is carried out all the farms along the river up to Nooitgedacht could be irrigated, but not further on.

DIRK CORNELIS GROBLER, a farmer, of Witkleigat, district Marico, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I fully concur with witness De Waal, with the addition of the following. There is a Government School building on Zwartfontein, costing £4,000. Now if this area be defined as proposed by the previous Commission, this school, which is now largely frequented, will be abandoned.

I am well acquainted with the Moiloa Reserve. A beautiful dam could be constructed at Papierspoort, and also at the native village Motsoedi on Rietfontein, whereby a large portion of land could be brought under irrigation, allowing for closer settlement of the natives. On the southern boundary of the Moiloa Reserve water could be had by making wells and boreholes, as is done by the white population a little further to the south; but the native does not exert himself. This is also the case at Witkleigat, where the natives do not cultivate the soil to advantage. That is the reason why the native treks all about the country with his cattle. Should the native exert himself to produce water on the ground he now occupies, this land would be more than adequate.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I know of no instance where the native has put up a windmill or taken the trouble to make a well 40 to 50 feet deep.

The old Reserve could be extensively cultivated.

I would be in favour of the Act compelling the white man and also the native to quit the area not intended for him.

FERDINAND HEINRICH WILHELM JENSEN, Missionary, of Linokana, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I think that the Native Areas as proposed by the last Commission are, on the whole, suitable for stock farming, etc. Dams can be constructed everywhere in the Notwani River for the purpose of irrigating adjoining lands.

I do not think that the areas, as defined by the Commission, are adequate. In 1904 a census was taken of the natives here, and the total given as 19,000, and again in 1911, when the total had decreased to 18,000, and I am convinced that these figures are incorrect. If a correct census be taken to-day it will be found that there are at least 30,000 natives living in the Marico District. I know this from my church registers. There are many more births than deaths. The average works out at 30 deaths to every 100 births. I do not think that the census is less because a large amount of natives proceed to industrial centres. The native does not wish to be included in the census from fear of the white people, and, therefore, the census becomes incorrect.

At present more than half the natives have left the Reserve in order to seek grazing for their cattle, and if they all return the proposed area is too small. The natives now possess about 70,000 head of cattle, and if these return to the Reserve there would not be sufficient grazing. If wells and dams could be constructed on the dry portions of the Reserve, the Reserve could carry more cattle than to-day, but not sufficient.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The inhabitants of the old Reserve number at present *ca.* 15,000; the other 15,000 are spread all over the district.

The native should be induced to make more use of irrigation.

*By the Chairman.*] Large portions of the Reserve could be brought under irrigation by constructing dams. The natives will not do this at present, but they will be brought to it later on. It is desirable that the native should be brought to this as soon as possible, but in view of the future a sufficient area should now be set apart.

The proposed area is too small, and I think that the northern boundary line should be drawn in a straight line from the south-eastern corner of Vinkrivier due east, so as to include Kalkfontein and Melorane.

*By Mr. Theron.*] There are 9,000 whites and 30,000 natives living in the Marico district, and therefore the natives proportionately should have more land.

LAWRENCE EDWARD RYAN, a farmer, of Langgezocht No. 237, Ward Boschveld, district Marico, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know Area 8; it is very suitable for agriculture and stock farming. The Moiloa Reserve is adequate for the natives. From Linokana to the north the land is uninhabited. I should say about two-thirds of the location is used at present for agriculture and stock farming. Wells and dams are required to make this land suitable. All the farms around mine have sufficient water from wells and dams, but the native area in my vicinity is devoid of water. The native does not trouble to get any. If the Moiloa Reserve be cultivated it could carry a much larger population. About one-half of the natives now working among the whites would return to the Reserve.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The natives have no more than 35,000 head of cattle as far as I know. The natives do not require more land than they have to-day. I have never yet met a

native who was desirous of learning anything in connection with the making of boreholes or dams.

*By the Chairman.]* If it be found necessary to set apart more land for the natives, I would suggest to point out lands on the northern boundary.

Zeerust, October 10th, 1917.

LUKAS MANVANE MANGOPE, Chief of the Baharutse, of Madhoedi, Moila Reserve, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* (V.B. *The Chairman reads and explains the terms of reference of his Committee to the Chiefs.*)

We have sent documentary evidence containing all our evidence and wishes, and any other evidence which the Committee requires I will be glad to give. The Native Council of this district has appointed one to speak in name of the people of this district, and the others present here will listen. We have appointed the Chairman of the District Council to speak for all the Chiefs, and to give evidence in our name.

MICHAEL MEILOA, Chairman of the District Council of Matico, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* The native population have formed a Council, which was informed beforehand that the Committee is coming here.

We have a grievance in that the last Natives Land Commission did not invite the Chiefs to give evidence, even after written representations had been made. This grievance is embodied in our written evidence. The number of natives in this district as given by the Native Affairs Department, Pretoria, is wrong. As we explained in our written evidence, nothing happened by way of epidemic or otherwise to reduce the number of natives. Therefore we have reason to believe that there was an increase in the population. When the census was taken no facilities were given to take the figures, and the natives declined to give their full numbers. It is possible that when the census was taken many natives were temporarily away from the Reserve. They all, however, come back again, and do not stop where they are.

*By Mr. Theron.]* I would put the number of natives at present in the district at 31,000. In the Reserves are living about 16,000, I think. The people living outside go with their families for a time. Some go to work for the farmers on various conditions, some for the sake of grazing, and they pay rent to the owner. There is no particular period for them to go out and hire land. They go out because there is not sufficient ground inside the Reserve for grazing. In some instances it may be that they go out on account of lack of water, but the chief reason is for grazing purposes. The water we have in the Reserve, I think, sufficient for the watering of our cattle. The reason the people send away their cattle is because there is not sufficient room for the cattle to graze, barring on the lands. We make wells and find water for the cattle. We are also starting making dams. There are suitable places for making dams in the Reserve, and we have made a good start in making dams there.

*By Mr. Scott.]* We have not counted the number of cattle, but we make an estimate, which I think is fairly correct, viz., 64,000.

*By Mr. Theron.]* Our estimate is based on the report of the stock inspector who brands our cattle. Some time ago we asked him how many cattle he had branded, and he answered about 30,000, and from that we made our estimate. The stock inspector gave these figures in about 1912.

*By Mr. Scott.]* In the Reserve are now about 10,000 to 12,000 head. All the other cattle are out amongst the farms.

*By the Chairman.]* The additional Native Area as defined by the Commission is not altogether suitable, because it is not suitable for all purposes. A portion of the bushveld is only suitable for pastoral purposes, and not for agriculture. In the proposed area there may be a possibility of making dams and putting certain lands under irrigation. It cannot benefit the people at large, because only a comparatively small portion can be put under irrigation, and would not benefit the whole nation.

*By Mr. Theron.]* We realise that the population of South Africa is increasing, and ground has to carry more people. Our people are making an effort to produce more grain than formerly. In the Linokana Location we produce more grain than formerly. There all water is used on lands, and none is allowed to run waste. The natives at the present are not so well acquainted with new methods of production; but in future we expect to gain more profit from the land now in our possession. I think it is not yet time to make boreholes, etc. Our people are still too far behind, and we have not yet the required knowledge of doing it. As regards boreholes and pumps I would liken it unto a child seeing what his father does, but he himself is not able to do likewise. The people living in the bushveld are trying to clear some bush for lands, but their efforts are not crowned so much with success as in the old places.

The farms mentioned in the annexure to our written evidence and marked "south" we think would be suitable for agriculture, and those marked "north" for grazing.

I expect my people will make even more improvements on farms already improved by whites.

The native people are just beginning to spread in the country, and seem to be going away from communal life gradually.

*The Chairman* asked if all the Chiefs present were satisfied with the evidence led, and they one and all confirmed, viz:—

ABRAHAM P. MOILOA, of Linokana; L. M. MANCEPE, of Moebedi; ISRAEL MEMOE, on behalf of his father, of Gopane; and other members of the District Council.

Rustenburg, October 15th, 1917.

PAUL JACOBUS ROBERTSE, a farmer, of Ganskuil No. 111, Ward Bushveld, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] The recommended Native Area is quite suitable for the required purpose, and I think quite adequate. I do not know how many natives are now living there, but not many are living outside these areas. In Area 9 there is a good supply of water from the Elands River to about half of the area, but on the northern boundary it is quite dry. If the native wishes to open water, there is sufficient water to be had for cattle. On the northern boundary there is a possibility of obtaining water by boring. The whites who have put down boreholes there had to go fairly deep down, but obtained a very good supply. De Paarl is the only farm on which boreholes have been put down without any success. I cannot recommend that any farms should be excluded from Area 9.

*By Mr. Theron.*] If it be found necessary to add any land to the recommended area, then farms should be taken to the north, which are now occupied by whites, as any extension to the east would be too near the Crocodile River.

There is more than sufficient grazing for cattle, but water will have to be made. I do not know the old locations. I do not know of any natives who have tried to procure water.

As a rule the natives only sow Kaffir corn; they do not go in for irrigation. A certain farm, called Witfontein, was bought by natives from Mr. Izak Cronje. This farm was a much improved farm, but has been neglected by the natives.

GERHARDUS JOHANNES VAN TONDER, a farmer, of Holfontein No. 667, Ward Elands River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the northern, western and southern portion of Area 9, but not with the north-eastern portion. The land, in my opinion, is the pick of the Bushveld, suitable for irrigation, agriculture and cattle. It is most suitable for cattle, but perhaps not so suitable for small stock. This area is very suitable for irrigation works. The farmers here plant much mealies and cotton. Agriculture here could be increased by making dams and catching up rainwater, as there are many suitable places for making such dams. I think that the area as recommended is sufficient for the natives. As soon as water is to be found the natives go to the lowlands and along the rivers with their cattle. Land owned by natives is only found near the locations. I do not know of an instance where the native has taken the trouble to find water. They only trek to these areas when water is to be found there.

I would suggest to exclude the following farms, viz.: Middelin, Doornspruit, Rietfontein, Holfontein, Cyferfontein and Uitval. These farms are occupied by whites. On Middelin there are 5 owners, on Doornspruit 2, on Rietfontein 8, on Holfontein 9, on Cyferfontein 10. Uitval is Government ground, and has been leased by Erasmus. Many improvements have been made on these farms, and there is plenty of water. There are fountains on Holfontein, Rietfontein and Cyferfontein, and wells on Doornfontein and Uitval. These farmers have many mealie lands and much stock.

My reason for excluding these farms is that they are very valuable and improved lands, and the owners may not be able to procure such good ground in return for theirs. The owners of Middelin, Doornfontein and Holfontein have deputed me to submit their desire to the Committee that their farms should not be included in the Native Area. If the natives are allowed to have these farms the improvements will be sorely neglected, as is the case on Vlaktefontein No. 305, which has been absolutely neglected by the natives.

Grootfontein No. 743, on which Mogatse's Stad is situated, has plenty of water, and with little trouble a large portion of ground could be placed under irrigation. Whites have lived here, and, with the consent of the natives, have made many improvements, which have now gone to rack and ruin.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I have not mentioned Blinkklip, because this farm is not occupied, but it is desirable to also exclude this farm. If these farms are excluded the following farms could be substituted: Buffelsfontein, Welgevonden, Smaldeel, Lisbon, Spitskop and Goedehoop. There are boreholes on Smaldeel and Lisbon yielding respectively 75,000 gallons and 12,000 gallons per day, and there is always water to be found along the river. To the east of these farms there is good grazing, and in the rainy season the soil is excellent for agriculture. There are no great facilities for making dams, but ample for boring.

If the farms in the Marico district be excluded, then to my mind there can be no objection to include farms to the north of the Reserve along the river, because these are



already occupied by natives, and I think this portion is more suitable for natives than for whites.

*By Mr. Scott.]* I am one of the nine owners of Holfontein. The produce of this farm is varying: mealies average from 400 to 600 bags, and tobacco from 40,000 to 50,000 lbs. On an average the farm brings up about £1,000 per annum. Crops are of secondary consideration, we principally go in for cattle. This is also the case on the other farms.

SAREL JOHANNES COETZER, a farmer, of Rietfontein No. 927 Ward Elands River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I have heard the evidence of Mr. Van Tonder, and concur with him, also in regard to the exclusion of the farms Holfontein, etc., and the addition of the farms to the north. The northern farms can without the least difficulty be made habitable. The natives mostly live within Area 9, where water is easily obtainable.

A native family does not require more than three morgen of land for cultivation; as a rule they do not cultivate more. Some natives possess a large number of cattle, and others practically nothing, so that it is difficult to say how much grazing ground each requires. There is enough grazing ground for native cattle in Area 9, and a large portion of this area has not yet been used for this purpose.

GERHARDUS FRANCOIS KIRSTEN, a farmer, of Boshoek, Ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am fairly well acquainted with the recommended Area 9, but I wish to give evidence in regard to my own farm.

I am well acquainted with Area 11. This area has very suitable ground, and is occupied by natives. Certain farms are not occupied by natives, and have never been used by them. The cattle of the natives there graze in the location. The land here is adequate, and I do not think it necessary to make any addition, because these natives have never yet gone to the neighbouring farms for grazing, and I have never heard them complaining of losing cattle through poverty, etc.

I would suggest not to include Boskoppies in the proposed area, as this farm is very suitable for cultivation and stock breeding, and, moreover, is highly mineralized, so that it will be very valuable in the future. I am speaking of the western portion of Boskoppies. On this farm over 200 morgen are under cultivation and under irrigation. A dam is now in construction on a very suitable site, from which another 100 morgen can be irrigated.

This land is too valuable for a Native Reserve for two reasons.

1. It could be made into a Settlement where a large number of poor whites could make a living.

2. This farm is highly mineralized, and too valuable an asset to be used only for grazing and dry lands.

History teaches us that the native cannot and will not do the same as a white man, and this farm will therefore be neglected. On the adjoining farms there is the same chance of improvement—for instance, on the farm Turffontein, and here nothing has been done. I have lived in these parts for the last 37 years, and have noticed amongst others that on the farm of Mr. Malan, which was bought by natives, no further improvements have been made. The land is the same as at the date of purchase, but no improvements have been made. This will also be the case with Boskoppies.

*By Mr. Theron.]* In speaking of Boskoppies I only allude to the western portion. In this area nothing more could be added to the Reserve.

If the native has to choose between two farms, one suitable for stock farming and the other for cultivation, he will undoubtedly take the one for stock farming.

Ledig is occupied by Natives. Doornhoek is occupied by whites and well cultivated, with valuable buildings thereon.

*By the Chairman.]* There are fountains on Boskoppies, and these have been opened by me.

JAN ADRIAAN DE PLESSIS, a farmer, of Bosfontein No. 193, Ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am well acquainted with all the proposed Native Areas. I am convinced that no better or more suitable land could be found throughout the Union for Native Reserves, but I think the area is too large for its purpose. It will take more than 100 years for the natives to properly occupy this reserve.

And again, in my opinion, the area, including Riekersdam, etc., is too valuable for a Native Reserve. Also Varkfontein, to the east, is one of the best farms here, and too good to be included.

Some of the farms in Area 9 are used by natives for grazing, but the greater portion is not used by them. Saulspoort, Doornpan, Keedoesfontein and Zandfontein are used by natives, and also some farms along the Pilausbergen; but thousands of morgen in this area have never seen any native cattle.

Bierkraal and Bloemfontein, to the west of Saulspoort, are occupied by whites, and the natives have never been there.



To make a reasonable living a native family requires from 8 to 10 morgen of land for cultivation.

In regard to grazing, I think 1 morgen of land per annum can carry 3 head of cattle in this area.

*By Mr. Theron.*] With a view to the future I think that the recommended area is too large. I speak from experience during the last 25 years and more. I would reduce the area and annex thereto a neutral area, which could be added later on if found necessary. I am quite satisfied with the area recommended by the Commission, but think it is too large.

I think it is necessary to exclude Riekersdam from the Reserve. Along the river exceptionally good irrigation schemes could be carried out.

I think Area 9 is about 100 000 morgen too much. As already stated it will take another century to properly occupy this area. This area is most suitable for agriculture and stock farming.

The natives of Saulspoort hire certain farms along the Crocodile River for the purpose of watering their cattle.

ALWYN PETRUS CONRADIE, a farmer of Modderfontein No. 247, ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.*] I fully concur with the evidence given by Mr. du Plessis. In addition, I wish to state that my farm Groenfontein No. 302 falls within Area 9. I have reason to believe that this farm is gold-bearing, and if that is the case, I will not be able to sell my farm at its value. And, further, Area 9 is too large for the required purpose, therefore land now belonging to whites will depreciate.

THEO. WENHOLD, a farmer, of Kroondal No. 177, ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the recommended areas and consider them most suitable for the intended purpose. The greater portion is very suitable for native lands and stockbreeding. There are not many suitable places for making dams, but everywhere boreholes can be sunk. Much of the soil is not ready for cultivation, but sufficient water is obtainable, and grazing is good everywhere.

Area 9, in my opinion, will be adequate for the next 50 to 100 years, and if provision has to be made for the future it is quite sufficient.

I think Riekersdam, etc., should be excluded, and the farms adjoining Ramakokskraal be substituted, in such a way that Ramakokskraal falls within this area. I would suggest the farms Driefontein, Rhenosterspruit and further in a straight line including Ramakokskraal.

I am afraid that when the other locations become too small for the population, and these natives trek to the recommended Reserve, the natives then living in the Reserve will consider the newcomers as outsiders, and this will cause much friction. This may, for instance, happen with the natives from Ratsegaai.

A native requires at least 5 morgen of ground for cultivation, and from 4 to 6 morgen per head of cattle for grazing.

The greater portion of Area 14 is already under the plough. The land is not sufficient for both agriculture and stock. The native is compelled to trek with his cattle principally to Elands and Crocodile Rivers.

*By Mr. Theron.*] A proof of Area 9 being suitable is that the natives themselves went to live there in the olden days. The grandfather of the present Chief of the Location went to live in the Location, but his great-grandfather settled in Area 9.

HENDRIK FREDERIK RIEKERT, a farmer of Kalferskraal No. 890, ward Elands River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.*] Area 9 is excellent for stock farming and agriculture. Not much is done there in the line of cultivation, only a little mealies and kaffir corn are grown. At present there is not sufficient water, but enough water could be obtained through making of dams, wells and boreholes. Along certain spruits many dams could be constructed to bring the land under irrigation.

If the other locations, Magatestad, Bethané, and Mabalane, remain as they are, then Area 9 will not be too large taking into consideration the future increase of the native population.

I do not know Area 14 very well. I think Riekersdam, Straatsdrift, etc., could be excluded, and Palmietfontein occupied by natives. Instead thereof could be taken farms to the north along the river.

GEORGE BEHRENS, of Oorzaak No. 568 (formerly of Mamogabies Location), ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I concur with the witnesses who say that Area 9 is very suitable for cattle farming and agriculture, and that this land is quite adequate. I would propose to exclude Varkfontein. This farm has been occupied by whites for more than 20 years; is

well cultivated and adjoins other farms occupied by whites. Instead, those of Ramakokskraal could be added and the adjoining farms Elandslaagte, Vygeboomspruit, Hartebeestlaagte and Elandsfontein No. 510 (owned by Ramakok's natives).

I am also of opinion that Riekersdam, etc., should be excluded. These farms are excellent agricultural farms, highly cultivated, occupied by whites, and very valuable. Natives would not do justice to these farms.

With regard to the smaller locations I would suggest to include Rooikraalspruit 592, Doornspruit 646, Rietspruit, and half portion of Rooiwal belonging to the Magato tribe, and to exclude Wildebeestfontein and Bosfontein, so that the reserve does not adjoin the Townlands. Wildebeestfontein is occupied by whites, but Bosfontein belongs to the tribe and a very small stad is situate thereon. To take this away would not raise any difficulties if it could be exchanged for other land.

Area 15, recommended by the Commission, falls in the Hartebeestpoort scheme. Government has purchased Bospoort, Beestkraal, Waalkraal, Welgevonden, Wonderkop, Turffontein and Modderfontein, in order to exchange these for farms situate within the Hartebeestpoort scheme.

Beneath the dam are the farms Kareepoort, Wolvekraal, half of Losperfontein, and Geluk, and a portion of Zanddrift, which should also be excluded.

I would suggest to include on the south Beestkraal and Schaapkraal, and on the north Bospoort and Rooiwal.

Further, I would include in Area 14 the farm Zwartbank 494 to have this boundary more in a straight line. In the last five years many improvements have been made here, as dams, fencing, etc. The owner does not live on the farm, but is making a lot of improvements.

I think it would be better to exclude Mabaalstad, Selonsstad, and Ratsegaai, and to transfer these to the Reserve. The Reserve is large enough for all these tribes. The natives of Mabaalstad belong to a separate but very small tribe.

FRANCOIS ALBERT SMIT, a farmer of Buffelspan, Pilansberg, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with Area 9. The land is very suitable for stock farming and agriculture, and good waters could be found there. This area is more than sufficient for the natives, also for the future. I have been living here for the last 53 years and, speaking from experience, I think it is sufficient for the next three times 53 years. The middelveld here is not much used by the native. If all the cattle of the natives be brought into Area 9 there would be sufficient pasture, but water will have to be found.

Varkfontein, Holfontein, Rietfontein, Riekersdam, Straatsdrift, Zamenkomst, Cyferfontein and Blinkklippen should be excluded. These farms have been occupied by whites for years, and many improvements have been made thereon, which would all be neglected by the natives. As an example, I may quote the case of a native Stefaan Berg, who resided on a well-improved farm Skaapkraal, but so neglected these improvements that he had to return to the location. A similar case is that of the farm Witfontein, bought by natives from a certain Mr. Cronje. The beautiful waters and improvements on this farm have been totally neglected by the natives, and even the dwelling has come to rack and ruin and is now uninhabited.

The native devotes himself more to cattle farming, and if he gets enough land for his cattle he does not need more.

To make a living a native requires from 5 to 8 morgen of ground. This does not include pasturage, only lands. It is difficult to say what pasturage he needs, as some natives would require one morgen of land and others a couple of thousand. In Area 9 four morgen of pasturage is sufficient per head of cattle.

I think the recommendation of Mr. Behrens regarding Area 15 is reasonable, and I concur with his views.

I also concur with previous recommendations regarding Ramakokskraal, that this should be included in Area 9 together with certain farms in between.

Regarding Selons Location and Ratsegaai I am not in a position to express an opinion, as I have not yet thought about the matter, but I think that the recommendation of the Natives Land Commission is good.

Instead of the farms recommended by me to be excluded the farms to the north of the Reserve, along the Marico River, could be substituted.

DANIEL RULOF COETZEE, a farmer of Commissiedrift No. 300, ward Highveld, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with Area 9, and agree with former witnesses that the land is very suitable for agriculture and stock farming. Where there is no water now there are great possibilities of getting water by making dams and boreholes.

The recommended Area 9 is too large, taking into consideration what has been given in Areas 14 and 15. To my mind the natives will later on all have to come to Area 9. Areas 14 and 15 are nothing else than temporary reserves, and should not be considered as native reserves but as neutral areas, to develop in course of time into white areas.



Area 14 is fairly thickly populated by natives, about 12,000. Most of the cattle of Area 14 are now grazing in Area 9, which area is large enough to provide for all the cattle of the natives. In this area 2 or 3 morgen of ground suffice per head of cattle for grazing; half of this amount is sufficient for small stock.

I concur with Mr. Behrens that Ramakokskraal and adjoining farms should be added to Area 9. Regarding Selons and Ratsegaai Locations, these should be transferred later on to Area 9.

I am opposed to Area 13 remaining a Native Area. This should be made into a White Area.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I think there will be some difficulty in transferring Mabaalstad to Area 9, but I think it should be done. Area 9 is large enough for all these natives. Certain portions of this area are just as good as Mabaalstad. Water in Mabaalstad is sometimes also very scarce.

*By the Chairman.*] The natives of Mabaalstad go in for agriculture to a fair extent. Their ground is not sufficient to support their cattle, which is sent to Area 9 for grazing.

DAVID RATTRAY ROUX, a farmer of Zuurplaat, ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am not very well acquainted with Area 9. I only know the country along the Marico River. I am interested in the gold-bearing farm of which Mr. Conradie spoke, and only wish to corroborate his evidence thereanent.

HERMANUS PETRUS STEYN, a farmer, of Bosfontein No. 923, ward Highveld, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know the eastern portion of Area 9. All that part is suitable for agriculture and cattle farming, and along the spruits are excellent opportunities for making dams, etc. Areas 9, 14 and 15 are quite sufficient, and make provision for all the natives.

ERNST PENZHORN, a Missionary, of Bierfontein No. 432, in the Mogate Location, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am fairly well acquainted with all the recommended native areas. Area 9 is quite suitable for agriculture and cattle farming. There are good places for making dams, and especially boreholes. The natives have already started making boreholes of their own accord, and have erected pumps, etc. I think Area 9 is adequate, but I would recommend including Ramakokskraal. I propose leaving Riekersdam and the neighbouring farms mentioned in this connection to the whites; and also Holfontein, etc.; and to substitute for these the farms between Ramakokskraal and Area 9 as already proposed by other witnesses, and, in addition, the farms between Ramakokskraal and Area 14. In other words, the following farms: Kameelfontein, Roodebank, Leeuwfontein, Hartbeestlaagte, Zeekoegat, Legkraal, Witklip, Klipplaats and Elandsfontein. These farms are of more use to the native than to the white man. Area 14 is too small for the native whose cattle have to graze along the Elands River, Hex River, and at Ramakokskraal. At the Location there are at the most 500 head of cattle, milch cows and draught animals, and about 5,000 outside of this location. If all these cattle had to remain in Area 14 they could not exist.

In regard to Area 15 I concur with the views of Mr. Behrens.

*By Mr. Theron.*] On the farms between Ramakokskraal and Magatostad native cattle graze, and no whites live there, excepting on Witklip, where a white man lives who does not go in for agriculture.

The native generally makes his lands on turf soil, and the soil in Magatostad is principally turf.

THOMAS ROBERT TOPPER, a farmer, of Varkfontein No. 51, ward Elands River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I object to my farm being included in the Native Area. I have lived there for the last 44 years, and have greatly improved the farm and am very much attached to it.

I think Area 9 is quite adequate and suitable, provided water is made. There are plenty of facilities for making dams, etc.

BAREND DANIEL BOUWER, a farmer, of Bospoort No. 57, ward Hex River, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I think the recommended Area 14 is quite sufficient for agricultural purposes, but there is not enough grazing. If the native can also procure land in the other areas, I would say that Area 14 is quite adequate.

I am opposed to the inclusion of the farms between Areas 14 and 15. If Waaikraal, Beestkraal and Boschpoort be added to the native area all parties will be content, and the now existing differences would be done away with. The natives of Area 14 and 15 are of different tribes.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

HENDRIK VAN DER MERWE, of Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am well acquainted with the recommended areas. The land is quite suitable for agriculture and cattle farming, and is absolutely adequate.

From a Municipal point of view I wish to say something. I think that the Townlands should not adjoin the Native Reserve.

Wildebeestfontein belongs to the Government and the Reformed Church, and Boshfontein is occupied by natives and is their property. The natives flee from the town to Boshfontein in order to escape taxes. Boshfontein is excellent for an irrigation scheme.

If Boshfontein and Wildebeestfontein be excluded from the Native Area it will not be necessary to make any addition. If found necessary farms could be added to the north of Pilansberg.

I protest against the inclusion of Zwartbank, Zandfontein and Roodekraalspruit in the Native Areas. These farms are greatly improved and are occupied by whites.

I think that the Native Areas are quite adequate, but would exclude the farm Ledig from Area 14, because it is surrounded by farms occupied by whites. Rather include Doornspruit, situate to the east, as also recommended by Mr. Penzhorn.

*By Mr. Theron.]* I am against including Ramakokskraal in Area 9.

ANDRIES PETRUS OLIVIER, Attorney, of Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am well acquainted with the recommended native areas. These areas are quite suitable for agriculture and stock farming, but water is very scarce. Witnesses have said that water is easily obtainable, but I know of farms where boreholes have been put down without any result, *e.g.*, at Jakhalskraal and Nooitgedacht. I do not know of any instance where they have tried to put down boreholes in Area 9 without success. There is, however, every possibility of storing water in dams, if only people would take the trouble to make dams.

In my opinion the extent of the proposed native areas is too large for the present, but I think for the future it will not be too much but certainly sufficient. There is no necessity of adding anything to Area 9.

Wildebeestfontein adjoining the townlands belongs to whites, and water can be obtained there, but if the native is to live there this will certainly not be done, which would be of no advantage to the town.

The natives on Doornhoek, adjoining Ledig, have never cultivated more than 10 morgen of ground. We have improved Doornhoek by making a cement dam and by cultivation. Now this farm will decrease in value. I would recommend to exclude Ledig from the native area, but if this cannot be done, I would also include the farm Doornhoek.

I do not favour the recommendation of witness Penzhorn, *viz.*: to include in the Native Area the farms Klipspruit, Zandfontein, etc. These farms are situate along the river, are occupied by whites and are well cultivated. I think that Rietspruit, Doornspruit and Zwartbank should remain in the white area.

In regard to Ramakokskraal, I think this should be included in the Native Area.

*By Mr. Theron.]* I do not agree with Mr. Behrens that Ramakokskraal and adjoining farms should be included in the Native Area 14. The native area on this side of the district would then become absolutely too large. It would be preferable to extend to the north of Area 9 if it be found necessary, or along the Crocodile River, where native cattle posts have been for years.

DIRK JOHANNES KOTZE, Attorney, of Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am co-owner of Rooiwal, and together with the other owners we have gone to great expense in making improvements, especially for irrigation purposes, and natives would neglect this farm. We have at present about 120 morgen of land under irrigation on the eastern portion. The western portion belongs to natives, the river forming the boundary line. The natives have the same opportunity for irrigating, but they do not take advantage of it.

I think the recommended native areas are too large at present, and as regards the future the position is too uncertain for me to express any opinion.

The same argument of Rooiwal also applies to Rietspruit, Zwartbank, and those farms.

I agree with Mr. van der Merwe not to include Wildebeestfontein and Boshhoek, the farms adjoining the townlands, in the native area.

I think Area 9 is suitable for agriculture and stock farming and sufficient water can be had there.

I recommend that Ramakokskraal be included in the white area as recommended by the last Commission.

THOMAS ARTHUR WILSON YELVERTON, a farmer, of Wildebeestfontein, district of Rustenburg, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.]* I think it is a mistake to include in the native area a farm like Wildebeestfontein, adjoining the town. My average crop of mealies per annum on this farm is from 1,200 to 2,000 bags, and this farm could certainly produce up to 40,000 bags of mealies per annum, and natives would do very little on this farm.



In former days there was a large citrus orchard on Bosfontein, which has gone to rack and ruin since the farm has been occupied by natives, and I think this farm should also be excluded from the native area. If Bosfontein and Wildebeestfontein be excluded it will not make the least difference to Area 14.

FREDERIK CHRISTOFFEL ELOFF, of Bierkraal 545, Ward Elands River, district Rustenburg, Inspector of Lands, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the recommended native areas. The land in Area 9 is quite suitable for agriculture and stock farming, especially for stock farming. There is good water everywhere, excepting on Kameelkuil No. 813, where water is very deep. Bierkraal, situate three miles from Kameelkuil, has plenty of water. On most of the farms boreholes have been sunk with good success. There is no question of scarcity of water in Area 9. Suitable places for dams are to be found everywhere. Area 9 is quite adequate for the natives, also for the future. The recommended boundaries are quite good to my mind, with one small alteration. To the north I would include the farms Gansvlei 111, Tusschenkomst, Lisbon, Smaldeel, Welgevonden, Buffelsfontein, Spitskop and Goede Hoop, and would exclude Hoffontein 661 and Rietfontein 927. These farms to the north are more suitable for natives, as there are good opportunities for cattle farming and dry lands, whilst to the south the lands are more suitable for irrigation, and not so good for stock farming.

Then I would exclude Varkfontein, a much improved farm, where the owner has been living for the past 50 years. It is situate on the boundary line of the reserve, and can be easily excluded.

In regard to Riekersdam, Samenkomst, and Straatsdrift, I would not include these in the native areas, as they are for the most part under irrigation, are very valuable and much improved.

Most of the farms in Area 9 are used by the natives for grazing, and they have also made some dry lands with the consent of the owners. Outside of these areas, along the rivers, we find a large amount of native cattle during the rainy season, when the native wishes to save his own grazing ground.

Should the Act come into force, and all native cattle have to go into Area 9, this area would be quite large enough.

*By Mr. Theron.*] About 20 farms along the Marico River, from Klipdrift to where the Marico runs into the Crocodile River, are dry farms.

It would not be desirable to give the farms along the Crocodile River to the natives. Without these farms Area 9 is quite adequate for the native. Not one-fiftieth part of this area is now being used.

The inclusion of Ramakokskraal in the native area would mean a great loss to the white settlers who are now making a living in that vicinity. Moreover, they are an example to the native of what can be done on these farms.

In regard to Magatstad the cattle of the natives living there could easily be taken up in Area 9.

N.B.—There were about 17 Native Chiefs present at this sitting, together with some 200 followers, and the *Chairman* having explained the terms of reference of the Committee to the meeting, Chief JOHANNES MAMOGALIE, of the Bakwena Tribe of Bethanie, wished to make a statement. Upon permission being granted by the *Chairman* he stated as follows:—

It will not avail us in the least if we say anything concerning this Act. We objected against the Act of 1913. Our petition was embodied in the Blue Book, but nothing happened, which proves that the Government does not wish to hear our pleadings. We asked Mr. Dower the same things, but with no success. Government officials told us it would not help us to go against this Act, as the Government would force us to accept the position.

The ground as recommended by the Commission is insufficient for our needs. We are steadily increasing. When the Government wanted to give us these areas we were sorely afraid. We want to purchase land, and not have same given or lent to us. Our property of to-day is over-populated. We request that each native may be allowed to purchase land where he wishes to. I think everyone buys what he wishes, and not what he is told to purchase. The same with land. We are afraid when the Government gives us land; we know land has to be bought. This is the desire of all the Chiefs, viz.: To be allowed to purchase land wherever we think fit.

*By the Chairman.*] My land will be more than too small in ten years time. I beg to be allowed to buy whenever I wish to buy. I should wish to buy adjoining farms to my property. I am unable to name these farms, as I do not know which I can buy. I do not like to have a fixed area pointed out, where only I can buy.

We wish to buy farms adjoining our property, and to continue buying when required. Supposing the appointed area becomes too small, will the Government allow us to buy elsewhere? Must I understand that when the area around my place becomes too small I must proceed to the other demarcated areas? This is very hard. We have our own nationality, and do not like to mix with others. I cannot point out an area which would be sufficient for me and my people in the future.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

In this I express the opinion of all the other Chiefs, in regard to the whole Act.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I don't know the Transkei. (*Mr. Theron* explains to the Chief the position in the Transkei and the Free State, and then explains the Act.)

*By Mr. Scott.*] I have nothing further to say, and only beg to be allowed to add to my property by the purchase of adjoining farms.

MALATHLEGI MOSHOME, Chief of the Bakwena of Pella, concurs with the above statement and evidence.

ISANG PILANE, Acting Chief of the Bakhlata of Saulspoort, district Rustenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I live at Machodi, but the section of the Tribe I am now with live at Saulspoort, Area 9. I wish to refer you to my written evidence contained in my letter of the 12th October, 1917. (See Annexure F.)

Area 9 is quite good, but I and my people have the same feeling about the matter as the previous witness. The biggest objection to this country is that there is no water. The cattle of the Bakhlata have not been confined to this area, they have gone outside. We see dams made, but it does not rain. We have made dams, but there is no water, as it does not rain. Our cattle are grazing along the Crocodile River, owing to the scarcity of water in this area. There is not sufficient water for our stock. The country is full of turf, and when it rains it is bad for our cattle. I would like the Government to extend Area 9 towards the Crocodile River, and also along the Marico River, where we can get water. Most of our cattle are on farms right from Vliegepoort downwards.

DIEDERIK MOGALE, Chief of the Bapo Tribe of Bultfontein, states:—

I am speaking on behalf of my people, and can only express their opinion. They only spoke about the Act, which we cannot discuss now. We are against segregation.

SELATIELE RAMAKOKO, Chief of the Bakwena at Ramakokskraal, states:—

I wish to refer you to my letter containing my written evidence. (See Annexure E.) I see the Government has cut out my location, and I come to ask not to be left alone amongst the whites, but to be included in the native areas. We wish to remain where we are, and not to be split up all over the place. The Government should give us one big area all to ourselves. We have no desire to be segregated, but to live as we have always lived.

If the country must be divided up, I wish my location to extend to Schilpadsnest, now belonging to me, and to be made a separate native area. I have no objection to my location being added to Area 9, if the Government thinks it must be done.

HERMAN SELON, Chief of the Bakwena of Grootwagendrift, states:—

The farm I now occupy is in the white area, but I wish to be included in the native area. I corroborate what Ramakoko said, in so far that I object to being put in a white area. As long as we have existed as a Tribe we have had water on our farms, and we do not wish to change for farms without water in the reserve. The ground on which I and my people live to-day is not big enough for the tribe with their cattle. I should like to buy the farms adjoining our present property. These properties are not improved, except Wilgeboom, and would not be too expensive for us to buy. Zwartkoppies is unoccupied, and Zwartdoorns also.

GERT MABALANE, Chief of the Phirings of Mabaalstad, states:—

We have selected Magale and Mamogale to express the views of our people.

MUTLE MOKHATLE, representing his brother, AUGUST MOKHATLE, Chief of the Bakwena Tribe of Magatostad, made a statement against the principle of segregation.

JOSUAH LEGOALE, Chief of the Bakwena of Ratsegaai, speaks against segregation.

PAKILAELE KHASWE, a Bahlako, of Mabeskraal, seconds the two above witnesses.

M. R. RUOELE, Native Wesleyan Minister of Sefanya's Kraal, states:—

I would suggest that the Government divide the country by a straight line from the Cape to the Zambesi in two equal parts, and give one part to the whites and one to the blacks. We would agree, as that is how it should be if segregation is brought about. Just as the Government has its idea of segregation, so I have mine, and it should be as I expressed above.

KEFAS RAMAOPE, representing the Chief of the Batleng at Ringhoek, speaks against segregation, and says that personally he has lived well on Ringhoek, but as the water there is not sufficient they have hired land from Chief Mabe in the Pilansberg for their cattle.

JOHANNES MAMOGALE expresses thanks to the Committee for having given the natives the opportunity of expressing their grievances against the Act.

Kuruman, October 22nd, 1917.

JOHN DORANT LESLIE, of Gamolilo, Ward VI, a farmer, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I should wish my farm excluded from the Native Area. This farm represents my life's work, and to my idea the farm is second to none in South Africa for stock. I have spent about £600 for water alone.

I am well acquainted with Area 6. Some parts are very good and some bad. This area is not suitable for agriculture, but very good for stock. The occupied farms are suitable to live on, but the country off the river is sandy and worth nothing.

On my farm I get about 75,000 gallons of water per day if the wind pump is working.

The land recommended is adequate for the purpose intended. The company farms along the Mashowing River are fairly suitable, but otherwise the land is worthless along the north. Veld there is bad, and there is no water. Only the northern portion of Area 6 is worthless. Whites can live in this area, and I should think the native could also do so.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The natives live in locations near water. Their cattle stray all over on farms also occupied by whites. On this area there is water enough if boreholes be put down. The whites living on farms adjoining mine will not mind their farms being included in the native area if mine be included, as they do not wish their farms to adjoin the native area. These farms are very suitable for whites.

As far as I know the natives have made no improvements on the land for the last 22 years that I have been here. They do not go in for agriculture at all. This is mostly due to the enormous drought.

As far as I have seen I reckon the natives here are fast decreasing.

CHRISTIAAN LODENSTEIN MEYER, a farmer, of Meyerton, district Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with Area 6. My farm is situate about 30 miles from Kuruman. In my opinion Area 6 is quite suitable for the native, because before the Stellaland War the native lived well here, and was rich in cattle.

Large portions of this area can be cultivated. With little trouble water can be obtained nearly everywhere.

Area 6 is quite adequate for the natives. They have always lived here, and do not wish to live anywhere else. The native does not make use of any other area, excepting in the case of disease amongst his cattle; then they trek to adjoining parts, but return again to Area 6.

I think Area 6 is sufficient for the native here. The native does not possess too much cattle, and therefore does not require so much grazing ground. I am satisfied with the recommended area.

*By Mr. Theron.*] Two to three morgen are quite sufficient per head of cattle. The land adjoining Kuruman is the best in these parts. Nearly all over this area water can be found at less than 10 feet deep.

COENRAAD FREDERIK BEZUIDENHOUT, a farmer, of Baily Brith, district Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am acquainted with the eastern portion of Area 6, especially between Vryburg, Taungs, and Kuruman. This portion is quite suitable, just as suitable as Taba Nchu, where I have lived for a long time. This is the richest portion in water in this reserve, and agriculture is quite possible here. The native does not go in for agriculture here. This is to be attributed to the proximity of the mines, where the native earns enough to be able to live here without troubling about tilling his land.

As far as I know this area has the best grazing ground, and 1 head of cattle does certainly not require more than 2 morgen of grazing ground here. As the native lives here 2 to 3 morgen of land per native family for agricultural purposes is more than sufficient. 100 head of small stock can easily thrive here on 100 morgen of ground.

I cannot say whether Area 6 is adequate. If farms have to be excluded from Area 6 I would recommend adding farms to the south, *e.g.*, Toxteth, Enfield, Childwall, etc.

N.B.—At this juncture Mr. FREYLIJCK, an attorney, of Kuruman, who had already requested to say something, but was told by the *Chairman* that he would be given an opportunity when his turn came, apologizing to the Committee, jumped up and told the meeting that it was now quite clear to him that the Committee had come here to set them a trap, because, knowing that those present did not agree with the Act, the Government was trying to get from them a statement that the native areas were sufficient, adequate, etc. He therefore advised those present not to give evidence before the Committee, and walked out of the hall. Some 30 then followed the lead, and the Committee was left with two or three witnesses. Most of them afterwards returned to give their evidence.

JACOBUS ANDRIES DU PLESSIS, a farmer, of Gollington, district Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with that portion of Area 6 from Vryburg to Kuruman. There is plenty of water here, but the ground is very stony. Cattle thrive

[U.G. 23—18.]



very well here. I think Area 6 is quite adequate for the natives of Kuruman and surroundings.

CHRISTIAAN GEORGE FREDERIK RHEEDER, a farmer, of Harvard, district Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am fairly well acquainted with Area 6. The portion around my farm is very suitable for agriculture and stock farming, especially when it rains a little. The whole area is suitable for stock farming, and is practically the best portion of Bechuanaland. The only difficulty is obtaining water, and boreholes have to be sunk fairly deep.

The area is quite adequate. If it be found insufficient I would add farms to the south, *e.g.*, Yale, Harvard, Toxteth, and portion of Crofton belonging to me.

ERNEST SHUBART FALLOWS, a farmer, of Copal, district Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I think Area 6 is quite adequate, and is as good a part of this Division as you could possibly find.

*By Mr. Scott.*] On my farm I can graze one sheep per morgen when it rains. I could not say how many morgen is required per head of cattle.

HENDRIK JACOBUS CORNELIS DE JAGER, Mayor of Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know the terms of reference of this Committee. I am well acquainted with Area 6, and think it suitable for the required purpose. I agree with former witnesses that grazing is exceptionally good. A large portion of the area is suitable for drylands. Running streams are found in several parts, *e.g.*, in Kuruman, Mayeding Native Reserve, Bothatheletsa, Motitiong, Vlakkfontein, and on the Kuruman River along the Native Reserve. The most unsuitable portion lies to the north, but there is every opportunity for making boreholes. Water may be obtained everywhere, but in some parts the water is very deep.

The recommended Area 6 is more than adequate also for the future. If the native applies himself more to intensive culture and makes improvements the land could produce double the amount. The native does not cultivate the land, or very little. The natives have always lived here, and have never complained. I do not think it necessary to add anything to this area.

I would recommend to exclude a portion of the Kuruman Crown Reserve, and also the farms Gamalilio, Kooroon, Penryn, and Ventersrust. I would exclude from the Kuruman Reserve that portion commencing from the western corner beacon of Pakhane up to the south beacon of Thamoanche, and then from the south beacon of Thamoanche up to the south corner beacon of Whitebank.

In about February, 1917, we bought from the London Mission Society 240 morgen of ground for the purpose of erecting irrigation works. It is our intention to allow only whites on this land, and to provide for a settlement up to the northern beacon.

On this portion there are only two natives who cultivate the land in a proper way. On the whole portion about 30 families are living, not including those who are dependent on the ground belonging to the Society, and these will quit by January next, to take up their abode in the location, and to work as domestic servants. The natives here do not own ground, they have only had the use of it for some years.

It is the intention of our Municipality to make furrows up to the ground of the Society, which will include about 104 erven which the Municipality intends selling to whites. The natives further up will then also be able to use this water, as there will be sufficient water left, after use by the whites, for the natives living further up. If the scheme of the Municipality be carried out, about 200 erven could be laid out, and we could house some 100 families. Grazing ground for the cattle of these families will then be required, and we request that the townlands be extended to the north as stated above. If the farms mentioned by me be excluded from this native area I think it will still be more than adequate for the natives.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The extent of the townlands is about 7,000 morgen in all. The natives have a right to the water granted to them by the Matthews Commission in 1895. We are busy compensating these natives for their rights, and with the exception of their Chief they are all prepared to accept our proposition.

I think it is desirable to exclude from the native areas the two locations to the north-east of Gathlose, as all the adjoining farms are occupied by whites.

*By Mr. Scott.*] The price of £7,500 includes the whole of the old buildings. Irrigable land comes to about £50 per morgen. The 230 erven are about 400 morgen in extent.

JAKOB STEYN, a farmer, of Dimoten, district Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I speak on behalf of petitioners around the Gathlose Reserve. (See Petition, Annexure P.)

The petitioners request to transfer the natives to a native area, and to set apart Gathlose for the whites. The natives in this part are a nuisance, as they are great

thieves, and it would be better for the whites if they be shifted from there. The natives have been living here for a very long time, but a great portion of the country is still undeveloped.

HENRY JAMES PURCHASE, Superintendent of Natives of the Kuruman district, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am thoroughly acquainted with Area 6, and think it quite suitable for stock farming; not so much for agriculture. Water is not so readily found, but sufficient for stock farming. Water is difficult to find between Matloring and Mashowing Rivers.

Area 6 is quite adequate, and will be so for the next 100 years at least. The native population is rather decreasing than increasing. The standing population is about 12,000. These come and go to the mines, and increase is not noticeable. I don't think it is necessary to add to this area, but I think it wrong to exclude the best portions, such as is desired by some of the witnesses I have listened to. If Toxteth and the other farms suggested be added, I don't think it will matter if Ventersrust and Gamolila be excluded.

I have heard the evidence *re* the Kuruman Reserve, and am entirely in favour of this scheme, but I see a difficulty in getting the natives to have the same view. I am afraid there will be a lot of trouble in getting the natives to shift from there. They might eventually be brought to sell by pressure, but willingly and voluntarily they will not accept compensation.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I quite agree that the natives should be brought under the regulations of the Municipality, but this will lead to coercion (compulsion).

I think it would be wrong to take away Gathlose Reserve from natives, who were put there under British protection. This reserve could not be replaced in this district.

*By Mr. Scott.*] The natives have been on the Gathlose Reserve for longer than I know.

RICHARD GRANVILLE NICHOLSON, of Kuruman, Inspector of Lands, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know Area 6, principally along the Kuruman River. The area as known to me is absolutely suitable principally for stock, but not so much for agriculture. Forty years ago this was the same. Area 6 is more than sufficient for the next 100 years. It is not necessary to add anything to this area, and no farms should be excluded.

In regard to the Kuruman Crown Reserve. If this settlement along the river up to Morecata is brought about, there would be sufficient water for natives living lower down, and the land up to there would be well developed by whites, who will purchase even along the river.

There are three classes of natives now living here—those who under Matthews' report live there undisturbed, others who pay 5s. for the right to live there, and others who have no right to be there. They cannot make an existence on their plots, and are mostly servants of town people. It would be well to settle these people on the locations here.

There are only two natives here who work their ground like a white man, and the Municipality proposes to give them transfer of this ground, with a view to their selling this ground later on to whites. I don't think these natives will choose to remain under municipal regulations. The two natives mentioned depend and make their living solely out of this ground and are not like the others who live from wages earned in town.

With regard to Gathlose Reserve I do not think they should be shifted, considering they belong to a different tribe, and it would cause friction if they were put among other tribes.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I think that the natives who have certain rights along this river will not like to be under municipal regulations, and when brought thereunder they will naturally shift. These natives have very little cattle, and what they have graze on town lands.

The natives have an indisputable right to own land along the river in the Crown Reserve.

WILLIAM WEDE STANDER, a farmer, of Zoutpansdrift, district Boshof, Orange Free State, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I own 9,300 morgen of ground in Area 6. The farm is called Longmede. I have occupied this farm, made eight wells on it, and have improved it considerably. I have a sufficiency of water, and have plenty of stock on the farm. My farm pays me well, and is self-supporting.

Nearly the whole of Area 6 is good, and water can almost be made anywhere. For cattle this area is exceptionally good. I do not think this area will be sufficient for the future, as natives even from the O.F.S. will come and buy ground here if they know that they can get this property in their own name.

JOHN TOM BROWN, a Missionary of the Mission Station at Kuruman, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am thoroughly acquainted with Area 6, and consider it suitable for the Bechuana, who have occupied same. Some parts are suitable for stock breeding, [U.G. 23—18.]

and very few parts for agriculture. The parts suitable for agriculture are along the Kuruman River, and on all the other Native Reserves. The natives are doing all they can do with the water at their disposal for agriculture. Manyeding Location has plenty of water, and the natives residing there are not doing all they can do. For stock this location is not very suitable.

If the land is only for the Bechuana of Bechuanaland it will be adequate for the next century. If it means the introduction of other natives it is questionable.

I think a great injustice is being done to people of Kono in taking away their location. These people have always been loyal, and this ground was given to them for their loyalty, and I think it a shame that it should now be taken away from them. The people living here are Batlapins, a branch of the Bechuana.

I may say the same regarding the Gathlose Reserve; these people have always proved themselves loyal, and helped materially in the late wars.

I think that Area 6 will be adequate. I would suggest that the native reserves along the Kuruman and Matlaring Rivers be widened, and the farms in the vicinity be added to the reserve as native area, viz.: the farms Ardith, Adderley, Wingate, Ewebank, etc., between the Kuruman and the Matlaring Rivers. I propose that the Government buy these farms and hand them over to the natives.

There has never been any room for expansion of the natives along the rivers. The places outside the reserves, where the natives used to go with their cattle, are now occupied by Europeans. The natives here are very poor, and I doubt whether the whole of them could buy two farms now. They have gone backward through gall-lamziekte, etc.

Regarding the township of Kuruman, I should have no objection to the proposed lines, provided the natives living there now be amply provided for by giving them a location of their own, where they do not fall under the municipal laws. I know that a large number of these natives are willing to go, but some do not wish to leave. The main thing is they should be given sufficient land along the river for their families, and their stock using the overflow from the water from Kuruman. In no case should the boundary of the town be extended so far as to prevent the natives from having a sufficient reserve along the river further down. The boundary, as proposed by the Municipality now, I think would make it quite fair for the natives, as they would have sufficient land to cultivate further down.

The number of natives at present in the Crown Reserve is about 1,300.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The population here does not increase largely, owing to the great mortality, principally through congenital syphilis.

The Bechuana have a strong sentimental feeling in regard to the graves of their fathers, and they will reluctantly leave the locations now marked in the white areas. Besides, these locations have an ample supply of water and are very suitable for agriculture.

As a Missionary of natives, and as a European, I think segregation is one of the best things, if it can be carried out, and is the best policy for both blacks and whites.

LUCAS PETRUS STEENKAMP, of Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Area 6 is exceptionally suitable for cattle. There is plenty of water obtainable, and the water is shallow, so that this area is partly suitable for agriculture. There are a number of farms where irrigation is carried out. I am sure that as far as water is concerned this is the best part of British Bechuanaland, and there is sufficient suitable ground for agriculture and stock farming. I consider that the recommended area is quite adequate, and no further ground should be added.

There are owners of land to the north and west of this area who would like to have their farms included. These owners are under the impression that the Government will buy their farms, and therefore they wish to be included.

Vryburg,

Inverness, October 26th, 1917.

CLIFFORD HENRY OATES, a farmer, of Inverness, district Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Excluding the Marokwen Reserve I do not think Area 1 is suitable as a native area, (a) because of the water question, and (b) because it is a Border territory. Otherwise from a pastoral point of view it is quite good. I think water can be made by drilling, but not by wells, as wells here are continually falling in, and as the water is too deep you can hardly get a good supply of water.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I think 200 feet is the average depth to strike any good water supply.

*By the Chairman.*] There is no possible chance for dams here, as Bechuanaland soil is very porous and spongy, and cannot hold water in dams. Any other part of the portion away from the border will meet with the same difficulties as mentioned above.

Paddapan is the most northerly farm where boring has been done, and with some success.

The farms known to me in Area 1 where water is found are:—Tlaping, one well supplying from 150 to 200 head of cattle with water. This well has been made, and is no



natural spring; Skelek, one waterhole of natural water, but is not permanent, of no reliable source; Waterbury, an old volcanic blowhole with limited supply of water, at times quite dry; Milwood has two such boreholes, where the water is very shallow, but sometimes fails; Paddon, one well of 70 feet deep, with very limited supply of water.

These are the only waters I know of in Area 1.

I know the eastern portion of Marokwen. There is a big pan, on one corner of which the cattle are taken to drink. This is a permanent water, and has never failed, even in the biggest drought.

*By Mr. Theron.]* I think Area 1 adequate for the natives for the next 20 years and more. The natives do not increase, they are on the decrease owing to hereditary syphilis. I think the Marokwen Reserve is for the time being quite adequate for the natives and their cattle, even admitting that this reserve is very much eaten off by cattle, and the natives get very poor crops owing to poverty of soil.

Area 5 is quite suitable and adequate.

Madeakkan I think should be excluded and placed in the white area. There are at the outside 35 to 40 families under a Government Headman, and they belong to the Baralong Tribe.

Area 5 also has shallow water, which the natives can simply bale out.

Vryburg, October 29th, 1917.

PIETER HENDRIK DE KOCK, Attorney and Chairman of the Vryburg Farmers' Association, of Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* Personally, I have not been through the recommended native areas, but I make my conclusions from generally known facts here, such as I hear every day in exercising my profession.

Area 1 is specially suitable for stock farming, but the whole district of Vryburg is unsuitable for agriculture. I have no knowledge of waters in this area.

During my fifteen years practice here I have only seen one single instance of a native purchasing ground in this district. The demand for ground therefore is practically nil. I have promised this man a good commission for every purchaser he brought to me, but notwithstanding this enticement there was no more demand for the purchase of ground.

I specially refer to the northern portion, our best ranching areas, which we think should not be included in the recommended area, as the native is not going to buy, and there is no demand as far as they are concerned. In the whole of British Bechuanaland there are about 64,000 natives, and notwithstanding this fact I think it is not necessary to give so much ground to the native, as they are not going to purchase.

*By Mr. Theron.]* Taking the nature of the native into consideration the Marokwen Reserve is more than sufficient for the natives there for the next 20 years. Even if they are on the increase this will still be applicable, as they cannot buy ground.

The old reserves were selected by the natives at the time because of the facility for water. The Bechuanaland native has never made any attempt to purchase outside these reserves.

*By the Chairman.]* I am convinced that the natives here will never purchase ground, and therefore will never trek out of this district. Why therefore should such large areas be set apart for them.

Our principal reason for not including the northern portion on the boundary of the Protectorate is that no control can be exercised on that boundary when diseased cattle are brought in.

*By Mr. Theron.]* At present no cattle diseases are brought over from the Protectorate, because there are no natives living on the boundary with their cattle, and therefore there is no occasion for such.

*By the Chairman.]* The natives in this district are not increasing; on the contrary, they are decreasing.

Many natives trek from the Marokwen Reserve to other parts with their cattle, on account of scarcity of water.

I think that from 4 to 5 morgen of ground per head of cattle is sufficient for grazing, but very much depends on the water supply.

*By Mr. Scott.]* As far as I know no disease has entered the district from the Protectorate during the last years.

*By the Chairman.]* All the reserves could be improved. In the Genesa Reserve hundreds of morgen could be irrigated if proper dams were made, and I think there are great facilities for making dams. One magnificent dam already exists, but this water is only used for the cattle and not for agriculture.

*By Mr. Theron.]* We have dry lands here, but only reap a crop once in five years if we are lucky. The natives reap nothing.

*By the Chairman.]* We think that Area 1 is the best cattle ranch of this district, and do not wish it to be closed.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

If this area must be extended I would suggest enlarging it on the southern side. If this be done all farmers here would be content. The native already uses this part for his cattle.

GEORGE DAVID SMITH, a farmer, of Middelkop, district Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I agree to a considerable extent with the evidence given by Mr. de Kock.

The land all along the Molopo is very suitable as a ranching country, and the only difficulty is water. As regards Marokwen Reserve I speak from what I hear from traders. They have a very good quantity of water there, and the water is very shallow. This is about the best place for keeping stock in this time of the year. In Area 5 you can travel for hours and not see a native or cattle. At Genesa there is a large dam, and the dam wall is in a very bad state of repair, because the natives do not look after it. I do not see that the natives of Genesa should have any extension. What they have is more than sufficient for the number of natives living there and their stock. Farmers in the vicinity have their cattle grazing on this ground, and the natives do not object, proving that they do not require all the grazing.

I agree with Mr. de Kock that it would be better to extend the native area to the south of Marokwen. I think this ground is equally suitable for the native as Area 1.

I should say that the average depth of water in Area 1 is about 100 feet, and I think in the western portion, suggested by Mr. de Kock, water is much shallower.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The European would prefer the area being extended to the south, but personally I do not know how this would meet with the wishes of the natives.

HAROLD GEORNE LEE, a farmer, of Cunnor, district Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with Area 1, and I think it suitable for cattle, but not for agriculture. One can only expect a crop once in five years.

I think the land the natives have to-day is absolutely adequate. The cattle of the natives are not on the increase and they have sufficient grazing in the old Reserves for their stock.

There is no necessity for extending Genesa Reserve, it is quite adequate as it is now. Grazing is plentiful. The natives of Genesa go in for agriculture; it is the best ploughing country of all the Reserves. The water is shallow, but there is not enough for irrigation purposes. You can only make shallow dams here, as the soil in the laagtes is sandy.

Area 1 should be extended in the way suggested by Mr. de Kock. The natives would not be against such extension, as the water to the south of the Reserve is plentiful, and the cattle are watered there.

The natives in the direction of Areas 3 and 4 are fairly prosperous and living fairly well, which shows that this part is very suitable for natives. This portion is also very healthy for cattle—I should say healthier than anywhere else.

If extension has to take place I would suggest to extend the Marokwen Reserve as follows:—From the N.W. beacon of Ilkley including the farms due south and the Hening Vlei Reserve; thence from the N.W. beacon of Clifton to the South including Berwick, Tay, and the Madebing Reserve, thence from the S.E. beacon of the Reserve all along the Mashowing River to the S.E. beacon of the Linopen Reserve, and from there northwards in a straight line to the S.E. beacon of the Marokwen Reserve.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The natives of Marokwen are, in my opinion, on the decrease mostly through syphilitic diseases.

The stock in Genesa is decreasing mostly owing to the modern mode of living of the native, and partly through gall-lamziekte. In the last ten years the native has become fairly extravagant and is living well.

Speaking as one of the whites living here for the last ten years, I feel very strongly about Area 1 being extended as recommended by the last Commission, as this is the most get-at-able portion for the people of this district.

MRS. LAFINA SUSANNA LESYA COETZEE, a farmer, of Pendomer, district Vryburg, states:—

I wish my farm to be exchanged for another farm in the Transvaal, because the natives are too troublesome; they make use of my farm without my consent, and continually steal my cattle.

THOMAS DEXT, Superintendent of Natives in the district of Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know the Marokwen Reserve, but am not acquainted with the proposed extension. I have only been over some parts of it.

The natives sometimes, and often in time of drought, send their cattle on to the Molopo River. They sometimes also make use of the Railway Grant, but not so often as in the direction of the Molopo.

As far as the natives are concerned in the Vryburg District the present native areas are sufficient for the native population, and I do not think it necessary to add anything to it.

I think the Marokwen, if improved, can be made suitable for a much larger population. Water can be had by making wells, there are no springs.

Area 3 has ample ground for the present population. There is sufficient water from springs, etc. This water is used more for drinking than for agricultural purposes.

*By Mr. Scott.*] The Genesa Reserve as at present proposed is sufficient for the natives living there.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I think the population is not on the increase, but just the same as five years ago.

I would suggest, if found necessary, to extend the area to the west, as suggested by Mr. de Kock. The ground there is equally as good as on the Molopo side.

MAMPIE MOSEGEDI, Chief of the Batlaros of Linopen, district Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am Headman in Area 4. I shall be glad if my area could be connected with Area 3, so as to make one area. As far as I am concerned I will be contented with an additional area as proposed by Mr. de Kock.

I am well acquainted with the area lying between Areas 1, 3 and 4. This area is very good for cattle. We only get water when it rains. There is no other water excepting in some small natural dams.

THOLOTITANE MAHURA, Chief of the Batlapins of Thakwanen, district Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I have had no intimation that Thakwanen would fall within the white area. I have only heard it to-day.

I do not wish my ground to be taken from me. This ground is a heritage from my father, and was given to him by Sir Sydney Sheppard. I have improved this ground to my utmost capacity, and would be grieved if the Government now takes it from me.

GERT MAHURA, concurs with the statement made by his father: a heritage goes down from father to son, and cannot be taken from him.

PULILO THAGAMJANE, Headman at Klein Chwaïen, examined, states:—

I know my ground falls within the white area, and I wish to remain there and not go away from there. I belong to the Batlapins, and I say the same as Mahura.

ISITAN RUTURE, a Batlapin of Motition Reserve, deputed to give evidence, states:—

Motion Reserve is adequate for our wants at the present moment, but is gradually growing too small. I am satisfied with the proposed Area 6.

GAOLEI ISAKA, Headman of the Baralongs of Motion Reserve II, concurs with the evidence of Isitan.

SAGAE SAMANE, Headman of the Batlapins at Takoon, chosen to speak on behalf of the people, states:—

Takoon is a portion of the Motion Reserve. I have heard what the former witnesses said about Motion, and I agree with what they say about their side, but I wish to say something about my side. On my side the people have increased and my place has become too small. My cattle wander off to lands occupied by whites, and are impounded. Therefore I want my side to be extended.

JABAN HALAN, Chief of the Baralongs of Marokwen Reserve, examined, states:—

I live at Marokwen. I see the proposed extension on the map. Marokwen was not sufficient for our cattle, but we kept them all there.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I do not know the farms from Marokwen to the Molopo. I have been in the direction of Honigvlei. The country is dry there and not suitable to live on, but it is good grazing ground.

CHRISTOFFEL RUDOLPH BOTHA, a farmer of Kareefontein, district Vryburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with Area 6. I agree with previous witnesses that the area is suitable for cattle and not so much for small stock. It is not suitable for agriculture.

The most northerly farm on which water is found is Skelek, and this water very often dries up. In the vicinity of Skelek water is fairly shallow, but further up it becomes very deep. Excepting on the kopjes, where the blowholes are full of water, very little water is to be found.

Area 6 is quite adequate for the natives here.



Area 3 (Hennigvlei Reserve), has plenty of grazing and a good supply of water, but the native does not use this water for agriculture, only for his cattle. The natives here keep all their cattle on the Reserve, and grazing has always been sufficient.

Area 4 is well known to me. There is a plentiful supply of water, which can not be used for agricultural purposes. The natives on this Reserve have only drylands.

On Genesa (Area 5), is sufficient water and grazing for the cattle of the natives.

I think the suggestion of Mr. de Kock is very good, viz.: to extend the Marokwen Reserve to the south. This would meet with the approval of both white and native, and it would be a great improvement for the native.

Lieut. CLAUDE EDWARD WIMBLE, Officer in charge of the Police of British Bechuana-land, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am well acquainted with Area 1. I think this area is not very suitable for cattle, owing to the prevalence of haakhos and scarcity of water. In some years grazing is very bad, but this year being an exceptional year the grazing is good.

For agriculture this area is useless.

I do not think this area suitable or adequate for the native, as within a few years the grass would be eaten off, and the land become worthless. The native in this part is one of the worst specimens, being very lazy, etc.

If the Marokwen Reserve be extended southwards it would be very much better for the native than to the north. The water facilities are also very bad here, but they have the Mashowing River running through this part. It would be very difficult to find other water here, even if drilling were resorted to.

*By Mr. Theron.]* The stock thefts here are now practically nil, and the natives are very well behaved.

Genesa is a good area, there is plenty of water and good opportunity for dryland farming.

#### BARKLY WEST.

FRANCIS ROBERT THOMPSON, of Cornforth Hill Estates, district Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I have lived 40 years on this estate. I know Area 8 well and there is no question as to the suitability. The land is of the best in the Colony, and while the ground on the mountains is not equal to the Hart Valley, it is a very valuable adjunct to the present reserve. In good rains half of this area raises very good mealies and kaffir-corn, and there is ample ploughing ground for the natives within its boundaries. There are places where forage and wheat is grown by the natives near some of the fountains. Fountains are found at Driefontein, Zoetlijntjes, Lenpotsau, Kookfontein, and some other, all of which produce wheat. All the new places have more or less fountains, where each man sows a little forage, wheat and mealies.

The land is more than adequate for the natives for more than 100 years. Only about a thousand families of natives live in the whole of the area, consisting of about 6,000 to 7,000 souls.

I think it is necessary, and quite fair, to exclude some of the land, and I allude particularly to Cornforth Hill Estate. But I would point out that this Estate divides the proposed Reserve into 2 parts. The natives from farms 20, 21 and 35 have no access to the remainder of the Reserve, owing to Thompson's four farms barring the way; but I am quite prepared to compromise, in order that the scheme may go through, by ceding 2 farms on the western side, Nos. 33 and 34, and accepting in exchange land on the south-western side, more or less equal in extent. That will give the advantage of putting my whole estate abutting in the white area, and give a clean run of the rest of the estate in a square block. It would have the further advantage of obviating the question of Farm No. 28 on the other side of the river being cut off from the estate, and left derelict. Under this arrangement there would be no monetary question of compensation. It would be merely an exchange of land for land, and you have visited the land and seen the quality of what has been offered in exchange.

If, on the other hand, it is considered necessary that my farms should be taken in the scheme as a whole, I must accept the inevitable, but I would prefer not to be disturbed in my occupation, having been here for 45 years, and having brought my farms to a high state of development.

The segregation principle is agreed to and in the whole of the district there is no dissension on this point. There are a few objections, but this is beyond the scope of your reference, and would be better embodied in a statement which I would have pleasure in handing in.

To make a living the South African native requires, I think, one morgen of garden, and 50 square feet as a building plot, and 10 morgen communally held for stock, because, while 1 native may have 5 head of cattle, the next native has none, and within this Reserve there should be a limitation to each man's number of stock, which he should be allowed on communally held grazing ground.

The garden would give him, in and out during the season, from 10 to 15 bags of mealies and kaffircorn. But in connection with that I would say that at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the men living on the suggested area go for 6 months in the year to the mines; so they are not wholly dependent on their lands, and the tendency every year is rather to buy their food, grain, etc., than to plough. This is another argument that the land is sufficient.

*By Mr. Theron.*] Year in and out on the Harts River you could have 8 morgen of ground to carry a beast, if properly conserved, and natives brought into line out of the grazing ground; i.e., segregation in its truer sense, the collecting of the people living on the village system. And it is no hardship to the Bechuana, because that is his mode of living, as different to the Colonial native, who abhors a neighbour, or living in close contact with his neighbour.

I would like to add a sketch of where the concentration of the villages should be made, for consideration when this segregation of the natives is introduced, which would facilitate the administration of the Reserves. I would be careful to chose river frontage, where never failing water is to be found, and in close contiguity to the mealies and the cornlands, which, in this district, fortunately, are more or less together, i.e., the water and the lands all along the river. The rest would be run communally for the grazing of cattle, sheep and goats.

KLEIN BOETSAP, November 2nd, 1917.

GABRIEL PIETER GREEFF, of Slangfontein, district Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with Area 8, which is very suitable for stock-farming but not for agriculture, excepting near the waters, where cultivation is found on a smaller and larger scale. Agriculture consists partly of "zuchtlands." On some parts drylands are found where mealies is grown, but these are rare cases.

The natives here go in for stockfarming, and on the existing locations much ploughing is done.

The farms on the mountains are very suitable for cattle. My farm is one of the largest cattle posts in this district, and is a refuge for those who have scarcity of grazing. Cattle at present is not so plentiful as in former days, owing to East Coast Fever and Gall-lanziekte. The grazing on the mountains is as good as the best parts for cattle, and they become very fat here.

Water on the mountain farms is mostly had from fountains, and there are also a fair amount of wells. Water is very shallow. Near the fountains a large quantity of wheat and forage, and also mealies is grown. The mountain farms are, for the most part, occupied by whites.

On my farm I have reaped about 100 bags of mealies, and about the same quantity of wheat in winter. We have never gone in very much for agriculture, but principally for stock farming.

Owing to the drought water at present is not so plentiful as in former days.

Fairhill, Westfontein, Roelsfontein, Gelsfontein and No. 40 could produce more than my farm, and Kookfontein, Slangfontein and Vaalbosfontein produce about equally as much as my farm.

Area 8 is sufficient for the natives living here, but if more natives come from elsewhere, I think it will be too small. The area as recommended is sufficient for the natives here to make a good living.

If the Government is not going to purchase the property of the whites as soon as this Act comes into force, then all the whites here are against being included in the area. In a certain sense I am opposed to it for the following reasons, viz.: because the Act does not allow us to sell to whites, and the native will not pay us our price for our improved land. I am acquainted with the terms of the Act. If the Government has our land valued by arbitration and then takes it over, we will be quite satisfied to be included in the native area.

*By Mr. Theron.*] There are 18 owners (whites) of the mountain farms. These farms are not all occupied. Everywhere in this area water can be obtained by sinking wells. There are no opportunities for making dams, as the ground is too spongy. The native does not trouble to get water, he is too lazy. In the olden days they chose the best farms, where there was plenty of water.

LOUIS LAZARUS, of Bloemfontein, O.F.S., examined, states:

*By the Chairman.*] I am more or less acquainted with Area 8. I think this area is suitable for cattle ranching, and in some parts for agriculture. Not very much is now done in the line of agriculture. The natives grow very little, they can grow much more in the so-called false vleis.

Area 8 is quite adequate for the natives for the next 10 or 15 years at least. As far as the extent is concerned, I agree with the recommendation of the Commission.

All the farms in the mountains are more or less alike,

[U.G. 23—'18.]

*By Mr. Theron.]* I have a big interest in land in this area. The 4 farms called Jelsfontein belong to us. There is water on all these farms, and they are occupied by our own men and are improved. I accept the position that these farms should fall in the proposed native area, provided the Government take them over as explained by Mr. Greeff.

I think the area is quite suitable for both whites and natives as they all do very well here and would do better if it were not for the different stock diseases.

*By the Chairman.]* There are no natives on our properties barring our labourers. Water is to be found everywhere and is very shallow. If people would only look for it they could find it.

ADRIAAN JACOBUS ERASMUS, a farmer, of No. 10 (W. Moos), district Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I concur with the evidence given by witness Greeff excepting that there are still thousands of fountains to be found which only require opening. On my farm where there was no water previously I have now sunk 7 or 8 wells and found good water in every case. This area is much richer in water than the O.F.S. Everywhere in this area lands could be cultivated, and there is a vast opportunity for agriculture. I think that the native here will have more than sufficient ground for all purposes.

ANDREAS JOHANNES OLIVIER, Minister of religion, of Klipdam, Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I am well acquainted with Area 8. I do not think this area is suitable for the native. The native cannot get out of the ground what a white man can. He will not make extra water as a white man will do. I think only the white man can make a living in this area.

I think this area is more than adequate for the natives, taking into consideration the amount of cattle now owned here by the whites, and how well they live here.

To live on this land the native will have to be taught to farm in the same way as the white man. As long as the native lives in locations he will not make any improvements, at least not at present. Experience has taught me this, not only in these parts, but also elsewhere.

If I had to recommend other ground instead of the ground in the Kaapse Berg Area, I would take ground along the Harts River, which is much more suitable for the native. The farms along the Harts River are also more valuable to the whites, but the native would use this land to more advantage than the farms in the Kaapse Berg. The price of land in the Kaapse Berg Area is from 10s. to 20s., and along the Harts River from 30s. upwards.

The natives can make a good living on the land where they are now, but if he will be able to do so in the course of years, I could not say. The natives here have not improved in the least since the white man came here.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON PAGAN, of Boetsap, Barkly West, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.]* I know the whole of Area 8. In my opinion the additional area is a fair one, i.e., it gives a portion of the Harts River and a portion of the mountains.

The natives will have to farm with sheep on 75 per cent. of the new area, and adapt themselves to this kind of farming. They cannot continue to farm along the Harts River as at present. They will need grazing on the mountains during the winter. The only drawback to ranching in this district is the Gall-lamziekte.

The land is not suitable for agriculture, only near to the fountains, where the land is very limited and only to be cultivated in patches.

Even along the Harts River the natives do not seem able to look after themselves, and will have to be helped by the Government in getting water for their cattle.

I think Area 8 will be adequate for a very considerable number of years, and I do not recommend any further extension. On the contrary, I think the whole additional area should be excluded, unless the Government takes over the land from the whites. The white man has already stopped making improvements here owing to the uncertainty of having their land taken over by Government. The farms here now are only half developed, and through this uncertainty will not be further developed. There are very few natives in this district who would be able to buy land.

PETRUS JACOBUS VISAGIE, a farmer, of Slangfontein, district Barkly West, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.]* I concur with the evidence given by Mr. Greeff, and wish to add something in connection with the native. The native can live well here and even better than the white man. They have always lived well here, and are still making a good living although they have less land now than formerly.

I think the mountain land is too good for the native, as he will not make proper use of the fountains which could be opened there, and will, therefore, have to go to the Harts River in order to water his cattle.

BENJAMIN WILLIAM HERBERT HALL, of Windsorton, Barkly West, Inspector of Native Locations, examined, states:—



*By the Chairman.*] I know the greater portion of Area 8. This area is not suitable for cattle owing to the Gall-lamziekte. On account of the prevalence of this disease the cattle cannot run all year round on the mountains and have to be brought down to the Harts River.

Along the Harts River is very good for agriculture, but otherwise not. Owing to the scarcity of rains this area is not suitable for agriculture. Last year being an exceptional year the natives had rather good crops, but in ordinary times they hardly reap a bag.

I reckon this area is quite large enough. The locations are not overpopulated, but rather overstocked. In the last years the natives had to hire grazing in the mountains owing to the drought. The number of cattle owned by the natives in Area 8 is about 6,400; sheep, 15,000; goats, 18,000; horses, 90; donkeys, about 200. This included the Mayeng Location. This number of stock has been kept in Area 8 all the time. A large number of stock was lost in 1915 owing to the drought.

The number of natives here is between 7,000 and 8,000.

On the River farms large improvements could be made, but on the mountains I do not see much chance for improvement. If the natives could make weirs along the river and take the water out, these would be the best farms in this district.

I think this area as recommended will last for years for the natives, and is quite adequate, and I do not agree to the exclusion of Mr. Thompson's farms.\*

*By Mr. Scott.*] Some natives have no cattle and some up to 17. These 7,000 natives are all residents here. Most of them go to the mines, but return regularly.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The natives are only temporarily at Mayeng, and will be quite satisfied to be shifted to Area 8. On Mayeng Location the natives have 600 head of cattle, 1,400 sheep, and 1,600 goats.

The natives, I think, are not increasing but just remaining the same. When this area is thrown open the natives I think will not buy ground as they have not got the money.

SAKAMELO, Headman of Mayeng Location, Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know that Mayeng Location does not fall within the proposed native area. The place where we are now is too small. I will be content to leave my ground if I could get just as good ground somewhere else. I know that I have been placed by the Government on my place as a temporary measure.

*By Mr. Theron.*] Mayeng is much too small for us.

ANDRIES LATEBEYAN, of Mayeng Location, Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Mayeng is too small for us. I know that the Government promised us that we will receive just as much ground as we had under Mr. Stockenstrom. If we can get enough ground to live on somewhere else we will be content.

JEREMIAH MOTJITSE, and PIET MOTJITSE, both of Mayeng Location, concur with evidence given by Latebeyan.

GAOLIS SIBI, Headman of Maruutha, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know the land up to Slangfontein. The people will not live in the mountains, as they cannot plough there, and cattle can only remain there during four months of the year. This land is not suitable for us. My father and I have always been on Slangfontein with our cattle. The drought is very considerable here during the last years. If the Government gives us enough ground we will be satisfied. We, Bechuanas, are spread all over the country, but if we could get enough ground we will all come together again to the fold. I would prefer to have ground from where we are living to the Vaal River.

JESIAH SELEKA, Headman of Driefontein Location, Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Where I live the ground is not good. You cannot make lands there, and it is not suitable for cattle or goats. I came here with 50 cattle, and to-day I have no more than 10. I had many sheep and goats, and to-day I have almost nothing. I have farmed for a long time in the Orange Free State, and know farming well. Disease here exterminates everything. I have been living here for the last 10 years. The whites in this district complain just as much as I do, their cattle die just as well as mine. Jelsfontein is not so bad as where I live, but they send their cattle to the Vaal River to save them. Some of the whites here have a large amount of small stock, but I do not know how they manage.

NTOKO COALE, owner of farms 15 p.g. and 16 p.g. in Area 8, N.W., district Barkly West, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] My farms are good for small stock. I still own 400 sheep, but have sold many. It is also suitable for horses, but cattle die largely of gall-lamziekte.

I have made about six wells on my farm, and have found plenty of water. The wells are 28 feet deep.

\* The reason for not excluding Mr. Thompson's farm is the continued friction between Mr. Thompson and the natives, who complain on both sides of the unnecessary impounding of stock owing to inadequate fencing.

The grazing in Mamutla is better, but there are too many animals, and the grass is all eaten off.

The native here is too poor to buy land. The ground of Thompson we cannot buy, as the price is too high.

N.B.—All natives here object to Galishow's people mixing with them if this law comes into force. They are very antagonistic.

Boshof, November 7th, 1917.

ANDREAS MOKAELE, Teacher and Missionary of the Dutch Reformed Church, of Boshof Location, district Boshof, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] The area as recommended by the 1913 Commission is too small.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The area usually called Zandfontein includes Blesbokfontein.

*By the Chairman.*] We are over 8,000 natives in the Boshof District, and will require at least 20,000 morgen of ground. These 8,000 natives include labourers on farms. I would like to make a general statement. (See Annexure R.)

I think most of the natives on farms would give preference to go to a native reserve in this district. We do not ask for an area to be bought by us, the Government must buy and present the land to the natives. The natives do not wish to buy themselves, they want it from the Government as a gift.

*By Mr. Theron.*] We would recommend as a native area the farms from Blesbokfontein to Oostleewfontein, along the border of Boshof, and also along the border of the Hoopstad district. Only the natives who are able to buy will go and live there. In the Hoopstad district there are many natives able to buy, more so than in the Boshof district.

*By Mr. Scott.*] At our meeting natives on the farms and of the locations attended. We thought we would get the land free from the Government.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I think there is water enough for our use on the farms suggested by me. I think these farms are very valuable, but I think the natives will be able to buy notwithstanding high prices, if they are only given time.

ABIELE JOHN MELATO, of Hoopstad, Missionary of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I have heard what the previous witness said, and agree with him on some points but disagree with him in so far that the people at the meeting on the 6th and 7th October last wanted to buy land. We would like the Government to buy land, and then we will buy parts from the Government.

Most of the natives will go into the native area if given a reserve.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I know Blesbokfontein, Bormansfontein and Biesjesfontein, and the other farms along those parts.

I would suggest as an additional native area the farms Scheerpan, Aaronslaagte, Kareefontein and Biesjesfontein.

RICHARD MAKHEMA, of Boshof Location, Catechist of the Dutch Reformed Church, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I have heard what the other witnesses have said, and agree with their evidence, excepting in so far as the purchase of land is concerned. The natives wish to purchase land; they are not very rich, but still they are able to purchase.

I think Blesbokfontein is too small as a native area, and would suggest that the same farms be added as mentioned by the first witness. The Government should buy the land, and then sell it to the natives on terms, as the white man will charge too much if we have to buy directly from him.

MALACHAI LECHOENYO, Minister of the S.A. Baralong Methodist Church, of Bloemhof Location, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I agree with other witnesses that the present reserve is too small, and more farms must be added. Also as regards the purchase of land. The farms recommended by us are suitable for agriculture, and there are many dams.

BENNET TAKANE, Interpreter and Messenger of the Court of Boshof, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I was present at the meeting of the 6th and 7th October. The great difficulty is that the natives do not know what to do under the Bill. The natives thought that Government would buy land for them, and let them have a township laid out in stands for sale, and at the same time be able to buy farms as stated by previous witnesses.

CHRISTIAAN ANDRIES VAN NIEKERK, M.L.A., of Boshof, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I do not think it is desirable to enlarge the native area here. I would suggest to have at the most three areas in the whole of the Orange Free State.

The ground mentioned by the native witnesses will not be easily obtainable, as the whites will not like to sell.

The areas along the Vaal River are not suitable for natives, because very little cultivation can be done there, and cattle diseases are very severe there.

Should the native no longer desire to work for a baas, I think it would be better for him to go to one of the large native areas than to settle down in too small areas in the different districts.

If it be decided not to extend the native area here I think no wrong would be done to the native. Everything would remain in statu quo, and if he so desires the native can acquire ground in the adjoining native reserves, as Taungs, etc.

LEWIS MICHAEL DEVINE HURLY, of Boshof, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I have been living in the Boshof district for the past 45 years. I do not think it desirable to establish a native area in this district. The natives here are trekking away, and most of the natives here now are Koranas. I do not know where the natives are trekking to, or what is the cause of their leaving the district. It may be that farms are now getting too small, and owners are not desirous of having natives on their farms with a large herd of cattle.

The natives in this district mostly trek about, and come from other parts. They are mostly farm labourers. The native population here is of a temporary nature. The native can only make a living here as a labourer, and that is the reason I think that he only remains here for a time, and there is therefore no necessity for a native reserve.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The native who is born here and has always remained with the farmer will not trek to a reserve, but remain where he is.

Potchefstroom, November 8th, 1917.

DANIEL MOCHUBI, Headman of the Baralongs of Machaviestad, district Potchefstroom, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I wish to make a statement. (The Chairman explains the terms of reference). I should like to know if there is any chance of having a native area in the Potchefstroom district. I have heard that Machaviestad is to be made a native area.

In 1859, my ancestors, the Baralongs, came here for the second time, and since then have always remained there. Before the second time they went away for a short period, but returned again. They originally came from Thaba 'Nchu, and the second time they came from Taungs.

Machaviestad falls under the Municipality of Potchefstroom. At the time the ground was given to us by President Marthinus Pretorius, but we never received transfer.

I repeat that it is my desire that Machaviestad should be proclaimed a native area. I and the other Baralongs were born there, and are attached to the place. We have always lived well on this property. Our cattle has always been there. The population of Machaviestad is about 1,000 souls all told. We sow largely, and have many cattle.

*By Mr. Theron.*] For years to come we will still be able to live there with our cattle. We increase, but there is also a large mortality. There are about 300 families. We do not always make enough out of the soil to live on, but then some of the men go out to work and earn money. We will be satisfied if natives from other parts come and buy land of us. I think we will be able to buy this ground ourselves. I know that if we wish to have ground the Government will not give it to us for nothing, but we will have to buy. If Government wished to grant us more land we will welcome it.

At present there is sufficient water for us at Machaviestad, and it is possible to make more water. We go in for drylands, and do not irrigate. Machaviestad is municipality property, and there is another location near the town.

Some 30 other natives from Machaviestad concur with this evidence.

EDWARD TSEWU, Native Presbyterian Minister, of Kliptown, hands in written evidence. (See Annexure "G.")

Ventersdorp, November 9th, 1917.

JAN MOLEBATSE, of Quaggaslaagte, district Potchefstroom, examined, states:—

*By Mr. Jooste.*] I am a Bakwena. My ancestors came from Rooikraal to Walkraal, near Potchefstroom. From there they were driven by Selekatse and spread in different directions, to the Orange Free State, Bulawayo, and elsewhere. Gradually they made a plan to buy ground in order to come together again, and then bought Quaggaslaagte and Dunbar. Our Chief is Serobatse, who purchased those farms for £12,000. We are now about 300 families there, and many are desirous of joining us. Every year there is an increase. When we came here we were about 80 strong.

Money is collected by the Chief from all Bakwenas of our branch of the tribe, no matter where they are, and they all contribute towards the purchase price.

We are all in favour of having Serobatse as our Chief.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The Bakwenas who fled to the Free State had their Chief (old Serobatse) with them, and then came under Marocco, from whom they received a residential area in Thaba 'Nchu.

[U.G. 23—'18.]



*By the Chairman.]* We, as a nation, desire that a native area be established here, including Quaggaslaagte and Dunbar.

MORENG SEROBATSE, Headman of the Bakwenas, residing at Quaggaslaagte, examined, states:—

*By Mr. Jooste.]* My father's name was Monamoli Serobatsi, and my grandfather was Sagano, who lived at Thaba Nchu. The father of Sagano was Serobatse, who fled from Selekatse in about 1825.

I am a direct descendant and heir of Serobatse. I bought ground a few years ago of Herman Selon, who purchased the ground from Mr. Schultz, before the Act of 1913 came into force. We have not yet received transfer, but are now busy with the transfer. The purchase price was £12,000, and the farm is about 1,000 morgen in extent. There is still from £9,000 to £10,000 owing on the purchase price. The two abovenamed farms are too small for us for the future, and I would suggest as an additional area the farms Zwart-rand and Houtkop. We are expecting a great influx, and then the ground will become too small. We request the Government to again acknowledge us as a tribe, that is practically why we appear here before this Committee. We have made representations thereunto to the Department of Native Affairs, but have had no reply yet.

There are now 300 men under me at Quaggaslaagte, and three years ago there were only 80. All told we are now about 1,000 souls.

One of the reasons why we wish to be acknowledged as a tribe is, because if we now wish to proceed to Ventersdorp we first have to get a pass from Ventersdorp, and this impossible state of affairs would then cease to exist.

From our place to Zwartkop it is about 2½ hours on horseback.

We wish Dunbar to come in the Ventersdorp district.

*By the Chairman.]* If we be granted a native area we will be able to purchase the adjoining farms later on, after we have paid off Quaggaslaagte and Dunbar.

STEPHAN THABANE, Member of the Council of the Bakwenas at Quaggaslaagte, examined, states:—

I have heard the previous witnesses, and agree with their evidence.

JAN RANCHO, Member of the Council of the Bakwenas at Quaggaslaagte, concurs with the previous evidence.

DANIEL AARON RODRICK MORUBA, Native Wesleyan Minister of Ventersdorp, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* Quaggaslaagte, Zwartkop and Uitkyk fall under my congregation. Zwartkop is owned by the Bakwena, who are not of the same clan as the people of Quaggaslaagte. These people have a Paramount Chief living at Bethane, Rustenburg, named Mamogale. Petrus More is in charge of the natives at Zwartkop. This ground has been purchased and paid for by this native tribe, and they wish to retain the ground.

I think there are about 300 families living at Zwartkop, in all more than 1,000 souls. Zwartkop is too small for the natives living there now, and we would like to be able to purchase more ground in the vicinity. I would suggest as a native area, including Zwartkop, the following farms: Schaapplaats 31, Kaffirkraal 349 (leased to natives for ploughing), Bultfontein 36, Nooitgedacht 241, Hartbeestlaagte 417, Doornkop 156, Welgevonden 413, and Goedgevonden 721.

LAWRENCE TREVOR SADLER, Wesleyan Minister, residing at Ventersdorp, and in charge of the Uitkyk farm, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.]* I wish to make a statement in regard to Uitkyk. On this farm 120 native families are living, in all about 800 people. They have been resident here for more than 40 years, and the majority have been born on the farm. What has been said in regard to Quaggaslaagte and Zwartkop applies even more to Uitkyk. On account of the natural increase of these people this farm cannot always maintain the natives and their families and descendants. If the Act be carried out according to the present schedule those people would be left there isolate, with inadequate provision for their maintenance. In view of the fact that they have lived there for several generations, I suggest that, if facility could be given in the district so that they might either hire or purchase additional land, the requirements of these people would be justly met. From a standpoint from some European people in this district that would also be an advantage to the European population. I have frequently had application from farmers in this and adjoining districts to supply them with labourers, whom they might hire. The existence of a farm like Uitkyk is an advantage.

Uitkyk allows only a small portion of land for each occupant, not sufficient to maintain a civilized native properly, but his home is established there, and his children educated, and he is encouraged to live a life of industry, and in some ways is helped. I don't always hear the best reports of Uitkyk, but many people come to me for servants from there, testifying to the good class of native there. So I suggest that Uitkyk be made a native area. On this farm there are special facilities being made for industrial training.

MARTINUS CHRISTIAAN SMIT, of the S.A.P., stationed at Ventersdorp, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know Boshok, Houtkop and Zwartraud. They are well improved farms. Water here is not plentiful, but there is opportunity for opening fountains. The farms around Zwartkop, *i.e.*, Bultfontein, is highly cultivated; Nooitgedacht is occupied by a few natives; Hartebeestlaagte is poorly cultivated; on Doornkop are only natives; on Welgevonden 1 European lives, and further natives; on Goedgevonden there are only natives, and also on Boshok. These natives work for the owners, and are allowed to live there.

The farms around Uitkyk are occupied by whites, who have native labourers. These farms are highly improved.

Lichtenburg, November 12th, 1917.

GABRIEL JOHANNES GREEFF, a farmer, of Manana, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the district of Lichtenburg, and also with the recommended native areas. The areas recommended are certainly of the most suitable ground in the district. The Polfontein Location, where the natives have been living all these years is one of the worst spots in the areas.

I think that the areas as recommended are more than sufficient for the present. These areas are adequate for all the natives, both farmers and labourers, for years to come. I think, and am afraid that most of the farm labourers will trek to these areas, as is the case with Quaggaslaagte, where most of the present occupiers have been farm labourers.

It is not necessary to add any more to these areas.

At present I have many labourers, but I am afraid that when this Act comes into force these men will all gradually shift to the native areas, and we will be left devoid of labourers. The poor native in the areas will have to work for the rich, and likewise the poor white will have to serve the rich.

I am of opinion that certain farms must be excluded from Area 10, as this area is too large. I think that the natives gradually will be in a position to purchase this land. I think that the area is too large because the labour question will be affected by it.

On the present locations not much more can be done than has already been done by the native. Much more could be done on Putfontein, Area 12, and Polfontein, Area 10, if dams and wells are constructed, but it will be difficult to go in for irrigation on a large scale. On Putfontein and Rooijantjiesfontein only rainwater could be stored.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The native here goes in for drylands and stock farming. Only on Polfontein irrigation is carried out.

On some farms here, given good rains, about three morgen is required per head of cattle for grazing.

The areas as recommended are, to my mind, quite sufficient and good, because the natives are not placed in one spot, but in several areas, so that it will be easy to procure labour without having to travel too far. With regard to labour, I have found during the last ten years that the labourer also has shifted to the locations. I think there is a large increase in the native population, as you do not find many diseases amongst the natives.

PETRUS JACOBUS JOUBERT, a farmer, of De Hoop 302, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I would suggest to exclude certain farms from Area 10, *viz.*: De Hoop, Schoongezicht, Vlakpan, Rietfontein and Drielhoek. These farms are excellent for agriculture, and very valuable, and not much damage is done here by frost to crops or plants. There is plenty of water, and all these farms could easily be brought under irrigation. For these farms could be substituted Bloedzuigerspan, where one white man is living, and he is leaving; Lusthof, a company's farm, where only natives are living; and Bethlehem, where no whites are living.

WILHELM HERMAN SCHULENBURG, of Rooijantjiesfontein, a Missionary of the Hermannsburg Society, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I know the Lichtenburg district well, having been born and brought up here.

The southern portion of Area 10 is suitable to live on, but the whole area from Polfontein up to Kunama is unsuitable. There is scarcity of water, cattle die of gall-lamziekte, and no drylands could be made for the cultivation of native crops. The southern portion of this area is fairly suitable for small stock.

In the additional area is scarcity of water, and only wells are found, but I think good water could be made by drilling. Only the portion near Kunama is suitable for cattle.

My greatest objection is that this area is not suitable for native lands.

I do not agree with Mr. Greeff in regard to the making of dams. On Putfontein, Vogelstruiskop and Polfontein no dams can be made.

Areas 11 and 12 are overpopulated. Up to now they have hired ground from the whites, and if they have to buy land in Area 10 they could not exist for the above reason.

[U.G. 23—18.]

The population of Area 12 is about 1,500 to 2,000 souls. Area 11 has a population of some 1,200 souls. These natives have made a good living, but they hired land around the location. For agriculture Areas 11 and 12 are too small.

In regard to the labour question, I do not agree with Mr. Greeff. I think that if this Act comes into force there will be more chance of procuring labourers. The man with a small piece of ground cannot get labour now, because there is no living room for the native, while the man with a large property has too many natives on his farm, who come to live there.

The natives on Areas 11 and 12 will never leave these places for Area 10, they would rather go amongst the whites as labourers. The natives on the three areas are of different tribes, and will never be on friendly terms.

Areas 11 and 12 are too small, but I cannot recommend an additional area, as the whites who live on the adjoining farms will never sell. Their farms are too valuable. I could not recommend any ground elsewhere.

The natives of Holgat possess about 800 head of cattle, of Rooijantjesfontein about 1,000, Vogelstruiskop about 400, and on Putfontein there is very little.

HENDRIK SLABBERT, a farmer, of Kalkspruit, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am deputed by the National Party of this district. I am well acquainted with the recommended areas, which are very suitable.

Area 10 is suitable for agriculture and stock farming, because the ground is mostly soft, and water is not deep and easily found, and when you have soft ground and water you can make a good living because, taking into consideration the good rainfall here, everything is in favour of drylands.

On Areas 11 and 12 much has been sown, and with success. The soil is excellent for mealies and kaffir corn.

I think the recommended areas are more than adequate, because Area 10 alone is sufficient, even if you should take away all other ground from the native. The native formerly hired lands from the whites in their vicinity, and if this right be taken away by the Act, then he will have the chance to plough in Area 10, and he can have sufficient land there. As to the purchase of ground, it will be easier and cheaper for him to buy ground in Area 10.

My Party is of opinion that Areas 11 and 12 should be made into white areas, and then Area 10 will be quite adequate for the natives of this district. Areas 11 and 12 could be exchanged for ground in Area 10.

PETRUS JOHANNES JANSEN VAN VUUREN, a farmer, of Vaalbank 116, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I concur with Mr. Schulenburg. I know Area 10 for the last 24 years. The northern portion is partly suitable for cattle, but not for agriculture. Only the southern portion is suitable for both. This will clearly appear from the fact of what has been produced last year on these farms, viz.: Vityk produced 1,500 bags of mealies; Vlakpan, 600; Nauwpoort, 2,000; Rozendaal, 2,000; Makauwspan, 1,300; Gelukspan, 3,000, and Kapsteel, 900.

The only difficulty with cattle is the gall-lamziekte, but small stock do well.

I would recommend placing Areas 11 and 12 in the white area, and then Area 10 will not be large enough for the natives. As an additional further area I would suggest taking from Vrisgewaagd, Damascus, Vergenoeg, along the old Convention line up to the N.E. corner beacon of Springbokfontein.

WILLIAM ARTHUR WATSON, a farmer, of Gelukspan, Area 10, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Area 10 is suitable for agriculture, and is not so bad for stock farming. Water is plentiful, and can be easily taken out from a depth of 20 feet. I think Area 10 is quite adequate, if Areas 11 and 12 be left as native areas.

On my farm I have planted  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bags of potatoes, and harvested 30 bags, besides reaping a crop of 3,000 bags of mealies.

*By Mr. Theron.*] If Areas 11 and 12 be excluded I would make an additional area as recommended by Mr. van Vuuren.

THEUNIS FREDERIK JACOBUS COETZEE, a farmer, of Vlakpan, Area 10, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Area 10 is very suitable for both agriculture and stock farming. Seven years ago I started with 6 ewes and 1 ram, 20 goats, and now I have 400 goats and 180 sheep. There is a little gall-lamziekte, but otherwise this area is excellent for stock farming.

Area 10 is more than sufficient for the natives. There is plenty of water on Polfontein. I think there is an underground river, which only has to be opened. The adjoining farms, Schoongezicht, etc., could procure more than sufficient water from this river on Polfontein, and thousands of people could then make a living there.



ERNST GEORGE LONG, a farmer, of Mooifontein 242, Area 10, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] Some farms are very suitable, others less suitable, and others impossible to make a living on. Amongst these last are Makauwspan, Driehoek, and from there up to the boundary of Poffontein. From there southwards is first class ground, consisting of very fertile lava soil, excellent for agriculture and stock farming.

Area 10 is more than adequate for the natives of this district, also for the future. In this district there is a great mortality amongst the natives, and the climate seems to go against them. They hardly increase. This area is therefore unsuitable for the native.

And, further, this area is rich in minerals, which will be worked after the present war, and then the native will not be able to live here or till the soil.

These areas are quite adequate for the natives, even if the native of Areas 11 and 12 cannot hire land for cultivation from the whites.

I think it will be necessary to exclude ground from Area 10: *e.g.*, Doornlaagte, Mooipan, Weltevreden, Siberia, Louisdale, Goedgevonden, Euslinsrust, Mooifontein and Lombaardslaagte. The remaining farms are suitable for the natives for agriculture and stock farming. For the farms to be excluded you could substitute Lusthof, Bloedzuigerspan and Rietkol.

I am fairly well acquainted with Poffontein. If the waters be opened there the adjoining owners will suffer, as their fountains will become less strong.

MARTHA MARIA MAGDALENA GROENEWALD, born Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen, of Sterkfontein, district Lichtenburg, states:—

I only wish to say something about Area 12. I would like my farm to be included in this area, as I cannot live amongst the natives. There are natives living on my farm who work for me.

The natives of Bethel, Micha and Witfontein wish to buy my farm. There is a large fountain and good lands on my farm, and it is very suitable for agriculture.

JACOBUS PETRUS KIRSTEIN, of Paardeplaats, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] The ground of Area 10 is very suitable for agriculture, and would be just as suitable for stock farming were it not for the prevalence of gall-lanziekte. Water there is very shallow.

The proposed areas are more than adequate for the natives for at least another 35 years.

I am against including Areas 11 and 12 in the white areas.

EDWARD HENRY MATTHEWS, a Law Agent, of Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the district of Lichtenburg, and also with the several recommended areas. The ground is suitable for both agriculture and stock farming. On most of the farms water is easily to be found, but here and there is a little deep. Water could be found there at about 100 feet.

Area 10 is sufficient for the natives here. The rainfall in that area is ca 15 inches.

WALTER GEOFFRET BERNARD, of Mafeking, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am representing Mr. Wirsing, who is interested in the native areas of Lichtenburg.

I know the whole of Area 10 well, and for the last 20 years. The ground is quite suitable for stock and agriculture. I do not think the area will be quite sufficient in time to come for all the natives living in the Lichtenburg District, if they are segregated to this area. If any ground adjoining this area be added it would be good enough.

I really wish to give evidence on a certain portion of Kunana, about 12,000 morgen, belonging to Wirsing Bros. Mr. Wirsing wishes, and has to sell this ground, but as the position now stands, the Bill not being Law now, he cannot sell to neither black nor white, although he has had many intending purchasers. We wish the Government to purchase this land. We wish to sell, and if it be excluded from the native area we think it would be easier to sell.

*By Mr. Theron.*] I would suggest to add instead of Mr. Wirsing's ground the strip of land between Setlagoli and Mafeking Reserves, between the Transvaal boundary and the railway line.

LOURENS DIRK CORNELIS VAN WILK, a farmer, of Toeggevonden 27, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] (Hands in written statement, see Annexure "I").

I am better acquainted with Area 10, and think that it is large enough for the natives here.

JOHANNES JACOBUS VAN ASWEGEN, a farmer, of Brooksby, Area 10, district Lichtenburg, examined, states:

[C.G. 23—18.]

*By the Chairman.*] I understand that some are running down land here, and I wish to state that I have lived in Standerton, and that the soil here is much better than in Standerton, both for agriculture and stock farming. Area 10 is also quite adequate for years and years for the native.

I agree with the recommendation made by Mr. Bernard in regard to the addition of ground to the north, near Polfontein.

CORNELIS PETRUS ENGELBRECHT, of Lichtenburg, examined, states:—

*By the Chairman.*] I am a prospector, and know the district well. I find that the soil between Polfontein and Kunana is very fertile, on some of those farms the farmers reap a large quantity of grain and mealies. Polfontein has plenty of water, and with machinery the water can be easily utilised for agriculture.

Rooijantjesfontein is large enough for the natives living there, and a large portion of ground can still be brought under cultivation. A little more than 400 morgen is cultivated at present. Rooijantjesfontein is only used by the native for stock, because the adjoining farmers get the natives to plough for them on half shares.

I think four morgen of ground is sufficient per head of cattle, and a native can make a good living on four morgen of arable land.

MONCHUSI MAILABA, Sub-Chief of Polfontein, representing his nephew, Chief Israel Matlaba, states:—

Area 10 is suitable for agriculture and cattle, but there is not sufficient water.

AARON MOSILETTE, Paramount Chief of the Baralongs, and Chief at Kunana, states:—  
I object to the portion of Mr. Wirsing falling out of Area 10.

PAUL MOLETE, Uncle to Chief David Molele, of Rooijantjesfontein, states:—

We are satisfied with Rooijantjesfontein, and do not want to leave it.

JEREMIAH, Headman of Jaapstad, portion of Rooijantjesfontein Reserve, states:—

We are not satisfied, as we have not sufficient land to plough. We wish an additional area, viz.: the remaining portion of Rhenosterdoorns, the remaining portion of Koppiesfontein, Cyterfontein, and Wesselsfort. We are able to buy these farms, but they are too expensive. I think it would be better to buy in Area 10.

LABAN TSHOLO, Chief of Putfontein, states:—

Our ground is neither adequate nor suitable. I wish Government Ground 132 and also Sterkfontein to be added. We cannot buy Sterkfontein now, but intend hiring it, and purchasing it later on, when we are able to do so.

Pretoria, December 27th, 1917.

CHARLES JOHN EASTON, of Johannesburg, examined, states:—

*By Attorney Kantor.*] I am sole partner of the firm of Easton, Adams and Co., and proprietor of Evaton Township, being a portion of Wildebeestfontein No. 406, district Potchefstroom.

The township is divided into two parts. One purely for natives and one for Europeans, and the dividing line is shown on the map.

The township was laid out in 1905, and lots sold to Europeans and natives. The native lots were continually sold to natives until 1913. There are still 600 odd lots to be sold.

In the native area there are approximately 4,000 natives. I gave evidence before the Beaumont Commission as to the suitability of this area, but without any definite result. I then made application to the Minister for leave to sell lots in the native area. Subject to conditions set forth in the letter of the Minister this permission was granted. One of the stipulations was that I should buy adjoining ground for grazing of native cattle of natives living at Evaton, and also that the few European purchasers in Evaton should be removed. All the Europeans with the exception of three agreed to exchange their lots, but this would not be any stumbling block. I have found the grazing ground for native cattle, and went to an expense of about £3,000. The Minister's consent has since been withdrawn, without any reasons being given.

I desire the township either to be declared a Native Township or else to fall within a Native Area under the Bill.

Shortly after its inception it was thought to make this purely a native township, owing to few Europeans buying.

In my opinion townships of this kind are very desirable. It keeps the natives from towns and temptations on week ends, and to my knowledge there is no question of liquor in the township, and since the inception of Evaton I know of no conviction. The natives keep council among themselves, and arrange their affairs among themselves. Crime amongst the natives living in this township is practically non-existent, whereas in townships near towns it is prevalent.

One thousand one hundred lots have been sold to natives, valued at some £23,000, and improvements and buildings made by them are valued at about £36,000. The native living here is of a superior class. They have schools and churches here, and I have granted some ten or eleven lots free for erecting churches.

I am of opinion that Europeans should not reside nor trade in these townships. I am quite agreeable to insert a servitude of this description in title deeds.

The purchase of ground by natives makes them thrifty and steady, and they do not desire to wander to outside places.

The supervision for health requirements have always worked satisfactorily. I think the natives have a sanitary board amongst themselves. I have had no complaints from neighbours or the police of disease amongst the natives there. I strongly recommend this area being made into a native area, and I think it a most desirable spot for the purpose. The condition of the natives in the township has improved vastly in every way.

*By the Chairman.*] I never had direct complaints from neighbouring farmers, but indirectly I have heard of one case of sheep stealing, but the boy was acquitted.

Some of these natives work on mines and some in stores, but a good few are making a living on the plots.

*By Mr. Theron.*] The township consists of 2,500 lots. The natives have to my knowledge always bought individually, and do not club together to purchase a lot.

The grazing area is 210 acres in extent, which I think is sufficient for the native cattle.

The idea is to give the natives local boards on the lines of a municipality. The portion below the boundary line I would like to remain a white area.

There is sufficient water to make a living out of market gardening, but many natives there earn a living in the towns.

*By Mr. Scott.*] There is a large institution for the natives in the townships. Girls are trained in domestic duties, and boys in gardening and trades. The natives are very clean there, and their present sanitary arrangements are satisfactory, pending certainty as to the Act.

There are many applications of white people still pending for plots.

*By Mr. Theron.*] All the whites in the native portion have agreed to leave, barring three, who are asking absurd prices, and I have to bargain with these men.

If it is necessary to extend the grazing I am willing to do so, that is to say, if it is obtainable, and this ground will not be sold for other purposes. There is a fair amount of grazing in the township on open plots.

ELIZABETH FRANCIS ADAMS, of Exaton Small Farms, district Potchefstroom, examined, states:—

In my ground 11 nine to ten acre plots have been sold to natives. I would like the portion occupied by natives to be included in the native area, say from Selborne Road northwards. The one native now living south of Selborne Road is willing to go over to the north side. My idea is to sell my portion north of Selborne Road to the natives, not to the south. I have lived here for about 11 years, and have only heard of one or two complaints, which seemed to me only rumours.

*By Mr. Scott.*] About three years ago I was offered the adjoining farms at £4 per morgen.

REV. WALTER FRANCIS HILL, a Minister of the English Church, Johannesburg, appointed by and representing the Transvaal Missionary Association, states:—(see written statement).

Pretoria, December 29th, 1917.

REV. AMOS BURNET, Chairman and General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of the Transvaal and Swaziland, states: (see written statement).

*By the Chairman.*] I would suggest as a centre for a native area in the Potchefstroom district the farm Utkijk, and to add some adjoining farms, i.e., Modderfontein No. 642, Modderfontein No. 222, Thyssendoorns, Gijferfontein, Rooipan, and the three portions of Government Ground. The simplest way would be to connect Utkijk with Zwartkop. I think the adjoining farms are worth about £3 per morgen. I think the natives would by gradual process be able to buy these farms, and if the whites will not sell, the land must be expropriated by Government. On Utkijk there are about 100 native families. These plough there, and the men go out to work in the towns, but their homes are at Utkijk, where their families live.

*By Mr. Theron.*] These natives are all practically of the same tribe.

Cape Town, February 15th, 1918.

DANIEL HENDRIK WILLEM WESSELS, M.L.A., of Vryburg, representing the constituency of Bechuanaland in the Union Parliament, examined, states:

*By the Chairman.*] I am well acquainted with the terms of reference of the Committee.

[U.G. 23—'18.]



I am well acquainted with the areas recommended by the Commission in the Mafeking and Vrijburg districts.

I think that the south-eastern farms in Area No. 6 are quite unsuitable for the natives. Owing to the prevalence of gall-lamziekte, and also formerly the so-called Kgokomal disease, cattle cannot live there at all. Very few natives are living in the native reserves situate in Area No. 6, and they only remain there because their ancestors have lived there, and they only possess a very small number of goats.

Should other land be required for the natives, I would recommend the area to the north of the Mashowing River, in the district of Vrijburg. Area No. 6 should never have been selected as a native reserve, and certainly not the south-eastern portion.

If the now existing native reserves be taken away, the natives will be very dissatisfied, because they do not wish to leave the graves of their fathers, and should they consent to trek from there, then they should receive of the best soil in exchange for the reserves.

I am against the natives being removed from the old reserves in Area No. 6, and this also applies to Kono and Takwanen, because they have sufficient water there, and have lived there for years.

In the additional area of Area No. 6 a European would be able to make a living, but not the native, because the Europeans make water, and the native does not, and as I have said, also on account of the prevalence of cattle diseases.

I would not give an additional area in Area No. 6, but would keep the old reserves only. The Lower Kuruman Reserve I would square off by adding the area between the Matlaring and Kuruman Rivers.

*By Mr. Theron.]* I would leave the Gathlose Reserve as it is. It is large enough for the natives living there. If the native would cultivate more systematically he would be able to do much more there.

I think that the idea of extending the Marokwen Reserve to the south is very good, and much better than the recommendation of the Beaumont Commission.

The Molopo Reserve should remain as it is, with the addition of the First Railway Grant.

The natives do not increase here, principally owing to syphilis. Formerly the natives there were rich, but now they are rapidly getting poorer.

*By the Chairman.]* I think that Area No. 2 is large enough, and no addition is necessary. I think that the Setlagoli Crown Reserve will be suitable later on for a township. The police are stationed there, there is a store, etc., and I would therefore not include this reserve.

The Setlagoli Native Reserve is large enough for the natives there, if they would only work and apply themselves more to agriculture. The native possesses of the best ground if he would only take the trouble to cultivate it.

Should Area No. 2 be found too small, there is more than sufficient room in Area No. 1, but the two tribes are antagonistic.

I know of no instance where the native had to hire ground outside the Area No. 2 for his stock. The native with his stock can make a good living there.

I think it is quite unnecessary to demarcate such large areas for the natives. They do not increase, and why should it therefore be done? I am opposed to providing for the natives from elsewhere, e.g., from the Orange Free State. The time will come when the native will increase, and then an undesirable state of affairs would exist, if the natives from elsewhere were admitted. Moreover, I do not think that many natives from elsewhere will come in, because this area is not so good as the areas and districts from whence they come.

I think that every Province should make provision for its own natives, and not burden other provinces with its surplus natives. Moreover, the natives will not leave their old districts voluntarily.

I think that Area No. 6 is quite suitable for small stock, and especially for woolled sheep. There is sufficient water, and it is shallow.

The natives in Area No. 8 have plenty of stock, and that area is very healthy. I think that there is too much stock already. If an additional area is not to be given I would add farms partly situated in the hilly area to the west, and partly to the east of the reserve, viz.: Killarney, Pendomer, and Home Rule. At present the area is large enough, but it will be too small for the future, and other provisions will have to be made.

SILAS MOLEMA, Chief of Moutson Stad, district Mafeking:—

Makes a declaration in which he says, that he has already sent a written declaration to Parliament, wherein his objections to the principle of the Bill are set forth.

He hands in written evidence, containing his personal views and the views of his people. (See Annexure "B").

Jackalsdams, Maritzani. 3/2/18.

The Resident Magistrate,  
Mafeking.

Sir,—I understand that a Commission is shortly sitting in Mafeking on Native Lands Affairs.

The farm Wodehouse Kraal is I understand included in lands proposed to hand over to natives

As Field Cornet and J.P. for the Ward No. 3, in which this land is situated, I beg to protest against it being again handed over to the natives.

I consider the farm well suited for settlement by whites, if divided into blocks of say 400 or 500 morgen.

The land is good for grain growing, and there is sufficient manure from old kraals to ensure good crops for years to come.

The farm is close to the railway, and white farmers would be an asset to the country, whereas natives produce little more than sufficient for their own needs.

In the Mafeking district all the best land near the railway belongs to natives already, and there are thousands of morgen of deep alluvial soil at Madibi lying waste, never turned over by natives, because they do not have energy to plough deep enough to resist drought.

I would suggest the farm Wodehouse Kraal be allotted to returned soldiers if possible.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) ROBERT WRIGHT, J.P.

#### ANNEXURE "A."

1. John William de Kock, of Spring Valley, District of Mafeking, do hereby declare:—

1. I have made myself acquainted with the report of the Native Land Commission, dated, Cape Town, 2nd March, 1916.

2. According to that report the farms "Wodehouse Kraal" and "Latham," in this district, are recommended under section 1 of this report to be suitable for native settlement.

3. As a taxpayer, I protest against the inclusion of this land, for the following reasons:—

A. The land known as "Wodehouse Kraal" is without exception the best ground in the Mafeking district.

B. To-day it is worth £2 a morgen, which I am prepared to pay for it.

C. It is well watered, good shelters for stock close to the railway, and would be, without any question, an ideal site for an experimental farm.

D. Its inclusion as a native area projects the native between properties owned and occupied by Europeans.

This applies equally to "Latham," though more strongly on the last point, inasmuch as three of the four boundaries would be contiguous to Europeans.

E. The governing principle in this matter is the recognised necessity for the segregation of the people or demarcation of the land as between natives and Europeans, and hence it is impossible to conceive how the Commission could possibly have included the Crown Reserves of "Wodehouse Kraal" and "Latham" in a native area, notwithstanding the reasons given by the witnesses, which unfortunately have not all been recorded in the minutes of the evidence taken by the Commission.

F. I assert, and this could be corroborated, that the present Native Reserves in the Mafeking district are three to four times bigger than required by the natives now residing on the same, for it must be remembered that the natives on the reserves are a decaying race, and at their present rate of decrease practically a few hundred may be living in the next fifty years—and in this connection an outstanding feature is the *legal fact*, that these Native Reserves in Bechuanaland are *Crown Lands*, and do not belong to the natives, *vide* Union Government and Divisional Council of Mafeking—appellant v. Montsioa—Respondent South African Law Reports—Appellate Division, 1914, page 42.

(Sgd.) J. W. DE KOCK.

6/12/17.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

## ANNEXURE "B."

The Barolong nation, composed of the Ra-Tlou, Maebu, Tshidi, Makgetla, Seleka, and Ra-Pulana, branches of the nation begs to report to the Union Government that having considered the explanatory addresses on the Native Affairs Administration Bill, delivered by Mr. E. Barrett, Acting Secretary for Native Affairs at Mafeking, on 19th December, 1917, at Kuwana, on the 20th December, 1917, and lastly, at Maribogo, on January 3rd, 1918, the Barolongs come to the conclusion that some of the proposals of the Bill, as explained by the Acting Secretary, contain some very disquieting features.

Firstly: The Bill would seem to introduce the objectionable principle of shutting the doors of the Cape Supreme Court in the faces of the native litigants, and leaving them only the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, which is too far above the limits of the administration of justice among the Bechuana. It proposes to confer very extensive powers upon a Board of Commissioners. Under such a system with the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court limited only to Europeans, the liberty of the native subjects will, it is feared, be seriously endangered, as instances have occurred where Governors-General have committed people to prison, in some instances for years, where no judges held jurisdiction (*e.g.*, the case of Chief Sekgoma), and in others, such as the case of Chief Sigean, where the Government's arbitrary exercise of its powers were defeated by the intervention of a judge. The judges of Kimberley and Cape Town have consistently administered even-handed justice to the satisfaction of all law-abiding natives of Bechuanaland, and no sufficient reasons have been adduced to justify a curtailment of the jurisdiction of the judges, or to endow the ordinary Commissioners with high judicial powers without stipulating that they should possess the training and experience of judges.

Secondly: The explanations given by the Acting Secretary also appear to show that while there are practically no additions to the tribal reserves, the native rights of acquiring interest in land outside the reserves are limited to a very small area, selected at the Kalahari end of the country apparently by reason of its unsuitability, fully 100 miles from the principal Barolong towns.

Thirdly: The natives who have been farming on their own in the south-western district of the Transvaal will be prohibited from continuing that means of livelihood. Under the restrictions of the Native Lands Act (which the new Bill proposes to take over), many such natives having been evicted from farms in Potchefstroom and other Transvaal districts, have sought and found an asylum on our reserves. They comprise Transvaal, Free State and Colonial natives, who were formerly farming in the Western Transvaal. They have been coming in since 1913, and are now established on the reserves; and the effect of enacting this measure will be that many more natives will be forced to leave their Transvaal homes and flock to our reserves.

Fourthly: According to the Acting Secretary's answers to questions such immigrants will not, unless they are Barolong, be under the jurisdiction of the Barolong chiefs. Extensive changes in this direction will complicate the peaceful administration of tribal affairs on the reserves, dis-organise the tribal management and add largely to the responsibilities of the chiefs and their people.

Fifthly: The industrial centres of the Union are attracting natives from all parts of Africa. On giving up town life such natives were always equally absorbed by the several surrounding districts, where European control is more effective, the reserves taking over only a manageable proportion; and the Bill by locking up the country to such natives will reduce our reserve to a dumping ground for the overflowing black population of the industrial centres, some of whom do not tend to make the best of citizens.

Sixthly: (1) Sight should not be lost of the fact that these territories were never conquered, but that they were ceded to the British Imperial Authorities by mutual agreement, and any scheme for the creation of common native areas should not embrace the Barolong reserves.

(2) The Native Reserves in Bechuanaland are tribal property, set apart for the exclusive use and occupation of the Barolong tribes, and to turn them into a cosmopolitan native area, as it is proposed to do in this Bill, is equal to the confiscation of freehold farms, and a distinct violation of the Annexation Act of 1895, which the owners should resist.

(3) It should be pointed out that the Barolongs have kept up and maintained an attitude of unswerving loyalty to the Government since the first British occupation in 1885, and they cannot understand why at this period, when His Majesty the King and his Empire are at war, they should be thus suddenly threatened with the restrictive limitations and humiliations proposed in this Bill.

This statement was read to me and my Councillors by Sub-Chief Silas Molema, of Mafeking, and we concurred with the views of the Barolongs in Bechuanaland.

(Sgd.) JOHN MONTSIOA,

And 52 others.



## ANNEXURE "C."

Statement by MATEBELI THOMPSON before General Lemmer's Native Lands Committee.

Cornforth Hill Estate.

In augmenting my evidence and realising the terms of your inquiry, and acting under your request, that I should amplify my evidence, I have the honour to submit my reasons for not finding myself entirely in agreement with one clause in the Native Lands Bill.

I submit that clause 21, sub-clause 2, as it now stands, should never be allowed to pass in Parliament, for it is nothing else but a penalty and an encroachment upon the right of owners. Firstly, an owner is asked to advertise the sale, and value he wishes to place upon his land. Secondly, he is bound to offer to a native giving a first option on his land. If the native is either unwilling or unable to buy the land the Government is then given the second option, and if both fail to buy, then the land owner is told that he may retain his land, but is perpetually placed in a native area, thus curtailing the right of ownership, and depreciating the negotiability of his land, and limiting his market.

On general principles the contemplated clause as it now stands is unfair, for before the Bill an owner of land had a free and open market.

Take for instance that an owner valued his land at £4 per morgen, and under the present system of our Divisional Councils, and ever increasing powers of the Provincial Councils, it happens to be valued at £2 for taxing purposes; what is going to happen if any owner should object to this valuation being put upon the land by the valuator; the owner is at once confronted with the fact that he himself placed £4 per morgen on his land, and is taxed accordingly.

The whole of this could be obviated if, where land fell into a particular area it is bought out and out at once, thereby producing finality. While on this I beg to point out that the measure as a whole is so good, and it would be a shortsighted policy if the administration were to cavil over a few thousand pounds.

Always remember that the country is not really finding the whole money, as on the one hand the Government receives, and is merely making money the medium of exchange, this applies both to European and native. I admit in the end the country may on balance be asked to pay something, but what will this compare with the general advantages to be derived.

This Bill has to be passed now or never, and a clear cut native policy laid down once and for all.

For want of a better term I would adopt the much used phrase "allow the natives to proceed on parallel lines with ourselves, developing their own future under the guidance of the governing race." So sure as I pen this statement, if this measure is delayed the question will become more acute.

Now is the time when, speaking generally, all thinking people welcome the measure. The European because he realises that there can be no admixture of the two peoples, and the native not desiring it either.

I would, as I have said often and often, treat the native fairly, allow evolution and betterment on his own lines. Taking it even from the most materialistic point of view, as a help to our own industrial life, with his labour and his own contentment and well being.

As things exist to-day the native is dying out. In other parts, where they are allowed such a measure of their own Government as they are capable of wisely handling, he is becoming a contented and useful part of our South African community and industrial life generally.

It is the least of my desire to interfere with the liberty of the subject. The native should most decidedly be governed by his own institutions and not drawn into the vortex of our Parliamentary system which he neither wishes for nor understands. He knows no elective system, other than Patriarchal; which, perhaps, is not quite relevant. I might further add that the present system of Location administration in some parts is very faulty. Areas large and over-large do not support their quota of population, because they do not build their habitations on any recognised system.

Their dwelling area should be fenced and separated from the grazing and ploughing area, more on the village commonage system. Instead of being allowed as at present to dig up all the grass for thatching and the forests for huts and firewood. From a medical and sanitary point of view, with diseases such as typhus and syphilis continually breaking out, they would be more systematically and thoroughly supervised.

(Sgd.) F. R. THOMPSON.

November 2nd, 1917.

## ANNEXURE "D."

Linokana,  
September 25th, 1917.

## LANDS ACT NO. 27, 1913. NATIVE AREA NO. 8, MARICO.

1. *Adequacy or otherwise of the Scheduled Area.* The extent recommended by the Lands Commission to be the future Native Area in this district (Marico) is extremely inadequate, in view and consideration of the native population, the rate of increase thereof, live stock, etc., as follows:—(a) 1904 (Census), 19,232 natives, 7,122 non-natives; 1911 (Census), 18,590 natives, 8,344 non-natives. The number 18,590, representing the native population according to the report of 1911 census cannot be accurate, this is proved by the fact that between the years 1904 and 1911 there was never plague, epidemic or a thing of another kind to have caused a decrease of the population as indicated.

As far as the majority of the native people are concerned it was possible, and, indeed, quite probable that the officers engaged to conduct the operations of the census at that time returned wrong figures.

We maintain that the number of the native people in this district has increased, and is increasing at quite a satisfactory rate, hence 24,000 must be the estimate for 1911.

(b) The number of live stock owned by natives in this district is estimated as follows:—Cattle, 60,000; sheep and goats, 20,000; asses, 500; horses and mules, 200; pigs, 2,000.

(c) The ground recommended is about 23 farms, and plus the Moiloa Reserve (which is already for our occupation), the extent of the whole area comes to about 53 farms. The extent of the district is approximately 289 farms, so that the recommended area forms only one-fifth part of the district.

It will be observed also that the number of the natives exceeds that of the non-natives by two parts; and in the face of this it would be grossly unjust if the natives with all their possessions had to be allowed only as much land as one-fifth; the result of such crowdedness would be detrimental to the progress and development of the people both as a race and as individuals, in fact none but an undesirable state of things would be the inevitable result in the not very distant future.

Hence this our humble prayer that a sufficient, adequate, and reasonable amount of land be set apart as the Native Area in this district. In our opinion at least one-third part of the district would be reasonable, this will mean approximately 96 farms, and this we are most respectfully and strongly recommending herewith.

2. *Suitability or otherwise of the Scheduled Area.*—The ground recommended as the future Native Area in this district is not suitable (altogether). The fact should not be lost sight of that the life of the native people as a race is based upon these two main factors: CATTLE BREEDING AND GRAIN GROWING, and it is from these elements that we as a race may anticipate our progress.

If, in the division of land, the native people must be given a class of soil on which they cannot succeed in growing produce, the act would mean a curtailment of our right to the soil as far as agriculture and agricultural pursuits are concerned, and of course deterioration of the people would be what can be expected.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that the ground of a class of soil suitable for agricultural purposes be included in and added to the Native Area.

We admit, the northern portion of the district, known as the Bushveldt, under which the recommended area falls, is a good land for pastoral purposes, but for agricultural pursuits the land is entirely useless.

In our opinion justice can be done in this respect by extending the Native Area to the southern portion of the district, which part comprises land suitable for growing grain and other produce.

Please find here appended a list of the farms we recommended to be added to and included in the Native Area.

ABRAHAM P. MOILOA.

SAMUEL MENOE: his X mark.

MOKGOBYOA POBE.

THEBE SHUPIN; his X mark.

LUCAS M. MANGOPI.

## LIST OF FARMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADDED TO, AND INCLUDED IN, THE SCHEDULED NATIVE AREA.

*Marico District—Area No. 8.**South.*

Olyvenbult .. ..	No. 30.
Vanggatbult .. ..	No. 35.
Zondagspan .. ..	No. 44.
Kareelaagte .. ..	No. 51.
Klippan .. ..	No. 79.
De Putten .. ..	No. 4.
Twyvelhoek .. ..	No. 327.
Klippan .. ..	No. 194.
Bultfontein .. ..	No. 103.
Kareelaagte .. ..	No. 81.
Jagersfontein .. ..	No. 78.
Vlaakpan .. ..	No. 24.
Vlaakplats .. ..	No. 20.
Vlaakplaats .. ..	No. 17.
Kookfontein .. ..	No. 311.
Buhrmansdrift .. ..	No. 105.
Kafferskraal .. ..	No. 180.
Bosjeslaagte .. ..	No. 186.
Makgalagadiskraal .. ..	No. 14.
De Eg .. ..	No. 15.
De Wig .. ..	No. 15.

*North.*

Derdepoort .. ..	No. 39.
Overwaachte .. ..	No. 220.
Mooiplaats .. ..	No. 135.
Tweede-poort .. ..	No. 146.
Mooigenoeg .. ..	No. 312.
Weldevrede .. ..	No. 45.
Leeuwhoek .. ..	No. 153.
Brakspruit .. ..	No. 162.
Zuni Zuni .. ..	No. 290.
Kalkfontein .. ..	No. 207.
Turfsloot .. ..	No. 161.
Mooifontein .. ..	No. 11.
Boschrand .. ..	No. 8.
Naauwpoort .. ..	No. 160.
Wonderboom .. ..	No. 110.
Uitval .. ..	No. 251.
Abjatarskop .. ..	No. 152.
Vleifontein .. ..	No. 117.
Lekkerdorst .. ..	No. 247.
Sebanane .. ..	No. 330.
Secheles' Oude Stad .. ..	No. 224.
Lekkerlach .. ..	No. 253.

## ANNEXURE "E."

*Translation:*

Ramokokskraal,  
2nd October, 1917.

The Hon. the Chairman of the  
Committee on the Native Affairs Administration Bill.

1. We, the Bakoena Batlase of Ramokoka, herewith humbly beg to bring before you our objections and complaints. Our first is that we beg that our ground, the farms, Ramokokskraal 307, Geluk 279, Elandsfontein 510, and Schildpadsnest 233, be included in the proposed Native Area.

2. The Bakoena Batlase were glad of the words of the Chiefs, at the meeting held on the 27th September, 1917, that matters (above Bill) be left till after the war, after our children have returned from the war.

3. We ask that we be given a Government school.

This is the request of the Bakoena Batlase of Ramokoka, together with the Chief S. Ramokoka.

## ANNEXURE "F."

Saulspoort,  
District Rustenburg,  
12th October, 1917.

To the Native Land Commission,  
Rustenburg.

Honourable Gentlemen,

If there were in me any eloquence of speech, I would now before the Commission unfold the views of myself and my people re matter in question.

However, I shall endeavour to the utmost of my knowledge, say what I can.

The policy of segregation is a thought we never expected from the British Government.

It is plain enough and natural that each nation on earth should, apart from others, own a land, but it is only those nations still in barbarism which can live under segregation policy.

I say that man was made to live for others.

The laws of supply and demand, if I may be allowed thus to express my thoughts, prove my former statement.

Our great object is to be civilized, and when we are told that we shall one day be separated from our civilized citizens—the whites—we lose all hope of ever becoming civilized.

Taking it for granted that the Bill in question shall be passed, we say that it will in future be recognized by the world-wide that a great drawback has occurred because all the areas set apart for natives are comparatively small to hold the population.



Natives live on cattle and agriculture, and I do not think that there is any one who will stand up and say that the native areas are sufficient for the use and occupation of the native population.

No. 9 Native Reserve, District Rustenburg particularly, is a very small area for the tribes which live there, and it is also waterless. It may be argued that water can be got by artificial means and mere labour; I say yes—as long as there be means of doing so.

It must be borne in mind that the farms are still to be purchased by natives, at what price! nobody knows, and it is not even assured that the Government will restrict the owners of lands included within the proposed native areas from charging an enormous price for their lands either in leasing or in selling the same.

I do not in the least expect the Government to intrude or violate the laws of personal rights, neither do I expect the Government to expose the natives and their reaches to the ambition of Land tenants who will see them deserted by law to be victims of the actual owners of the ground supposed to be reserved for natives.

In our days rain is very scarce and dams built up with enormous expense have proved a failure.

If it had been proved that every farm within the Reserve No. 9 was suitable both for agricultural purposes and for breeding of stock at all times of a year the question would now only be as to its sufficiency for the purpose intended.

Most of the farms are stony and others are turf.

He who knows how to handle a plough will no longer hesitate the judgment as to the suitability of ground for the purposes intended.

The Bakgatla tribe humbly implore the Honourable Commission to take this matter into consideration. All the tribe possess is an asset to the country, and can it be believed that there is to-day anyone who wishes to do away with such a help which even goes as far as Britain.

As regards to the *administration* of the proposed native area I say it is distasteful to natives.

We do not see any reason why the Government can abolish the chieftainship among the natives and even go as far as abolishing the laws, customs and usages prevailing amongst them previous to the European Government.

If such laws and customs be repugnant to the general principles of humanity and civilisation, I say do away with them, but now I do not think that they are so.

I wish the Commission to take pains a little and compile a text book or statutory code based on native law which, without any doubt, would be useful as a help towards uniformity in administration.

This advice I give in case the Government is determined to segregate the natives from the whites.

The Bakgatla tribe humbly wishes the Commission to note that without any forcive argument from them and without reminding the Government of any loyalty we have in past shown, it craves for a fairer law to be passed in Parliament and laws enacted by impartial persons. "Our cattle cannot live," the tribe says, "unless we be allowed to hire grazing and hire lands with sufficient water for them." Water can up to the present be found in the Crocodile and Marico Rivers.

We do not claim to be allowed the use of our ancestors' land as it stood previous to the European Government, but we ask for an ample room to live on and room with sufficient water.

The Bakgatla tribe have been accustomed practically from time immemorial to water their cattle in the Crocodile River down to its junction with Marico River up with Marico to Laast Poort.

Nearly all their cattle kraals are to-day situate on the said rivers, and it should be a great hardship to them if they were to remove these kraals and return with their cattle to a practically dry area.

I humbly beg to remain,

Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) ISANG L. PILANE,  
Acting Chief of the Bakgatla Tribe.

## ANNEXURE "G."

## EVIDENCE BEFORE THE NATIVE AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION BILL COMMISSION.

Honoured Sirs,

I beg to appear before you as a delegate from "The Iliso Lomzi Lo Notenga" (Transvaal Native Land Owners' Association), and Native Land Owners in general at Evaton, Klip Town or Race Course Township.

The native areas as demarcated and shown on the map are far away to the north-east and north-west Transvaal, in the districts of Waterberg, Pietersburg, Marico, Zoutpansberg, Rustenburg, Pretoria, and Middelburg. At present they are there only; whereas a good many native land owners, especially in the districts of Potchefstroom, Krugersdorp, Johannesburg and Heidelberg, live and have bought in the Townships of Evaton, Klip Town, Sophia, Kensington and Alexandria. No native areas demarcated in these districts whatsoever.

I beg to draw the attention of the honourable body of the Native Affairs Administration Bill Commission to the fact that most of the natives who live and have bought at Evaton and Klip Town hailed from the Cape, Natal and Free State Provinces, and that they have come and lived in these places because they have purchased there. These townships are far away from European and surrounding white inhabitant districts. The distance of Evaton is thirty-six (36) miles from Johannesburg, and thirteen (13) miles from the Coal Mining Village of Vereeniging. Klip Town or Race Course Township is thirteen (13) miles from Johannesburg. In Evaton Township no white persons have bought and built. The native inhabitants at Evaton and Klip Town remain as far as possible at a distance from *white population surroundings*. Tendency of white persons is moving in the direction of East Rand and districts (now moving areas), and Western Rand is not attracting, considering the land for sale which has been advertised in the townships of Evaton and Klip Town or Race Course for a number of years, still show no sign of being purchased by white people, and there is no likelihood even in the future apparently that land there will ever be purchased by white people; only native people who have and are occupying it.

*Population.*—In Evaton the population of native people is four to one European, and in Klip Town there are two hundred (200) approximately to three (3) European families who may own land.

*Improvements.*—When these places, Evaton and Klip Town, were bought by the natives, they were empty, treeless grounds, nothing whatsoever on them. Now, in Evaton as well as in Klip Town, native people have built substantial buildings of nice houses and homes and have planted many nice, good fruit as well as other useful trees of all sorts, and still more, they have sunk nice, good, deep wells all over. There are Churches of all Denominations and School Rooms built at Evaton, and also a nice good Church built at Klip Town. A good few native ministers live in these places and Evangelists. Now Evaton and Klip Town are really townships worthy of the name of townships. There are nice gardens, where vegetables are seen every year. There are flower gardens as well, of which any person, whoever he may be, would be proud. All these improvements are made by these native people who live in those Townships, Evaton and Klip Town.

*Loyalty.*—The inhabitants of Evaton and Klip Town are law-abiding people, who do harm to nobody. They have been a number of years in these places, surrounded by white farmers, and there are no cases of whatsoever, of stock stealing traced to them, nor any cases of rape even mentioned among them; and there is not a single case of rebellion which has even been mentioned among them. Go, Honoured Sirs, if you please, to any Magistracy of Krugersdorp and Vereeniging and you will not, as far as I am aware, trace any conviction of stock stealing, ever traced among these Native Townships of Evaton and Klip Town.

Moreover, allow your humble servant, Honoured Sirs, to say out of these Townships we have to-day, fathers, sons, husbands, cousins, young men, owners of properties in these Townships, who have gone in answer to the call of the King to France, and some of the sons and husbands, brothers of the people in these Townships, have sunk with the famous "Mendi" disaster, in obedience and loyalty to the King and Empire.

## THE LOSS OF THE 'MENDEI'

1. 'T'was on a cold and foggy morn at Sea,  
February had twenty days and two;  
When off the Isle of Wight we learn to-day,  
The transport, 'Mendi' sank beneath the waves.
2. Her cargo not of usual cast and shade,  
The 'Mendi' ploughed the waves in spirits high;  
Fast by her native shores a wreck she made:  
With more than twice four hundred men on board,

3. There Natives of South Africa she bore  
Enlisted subjects of the King, who signed  
With pride to execute the Royal Call,  
For dock-yard labour on the ports of France.
4. Collided! Yes, she collided we learn,  
With a mysterious ship unknown to all,  
And thirty score and eight darkies, dear,  
Beneath the rolling waves their graves did find.
5. No more to smile, O yea, no more to weep,  
Like noble boys on duty's path they died:  
The thirty score and eight niggers will,  
No more to Africa's sunny shores return.
6. Our native boys! Indeed our very best,  
In blind loyalty and in self respect,  
Seeking liberty, care and justice did,  
To Britain and her Allies pledge themselves.
7. "England expects every man to do his duty,"  
'But the Union to exploit the natives'  
Yet still our darkies volunteered to go,  
Regardless of their lives and families.
8. Could this be brave old Nelson's cry again?  
Nay, the echo loudly does not sound the same.  
But the 'Mendi's' tale will ever remain,  
A mem'ry of our boys who perished there.
9. Ye Africans, all ye darkies beware!  
Your sons in glory bright have gone to rest:  
Parents, relatives and sweethearts beware!  
Your struggle for existence is very great.

B. G. P.

I have made a search and asked almost every white person I met in Evaton, Dutch, English, Jew, about the conduct and behaviour of these native inhabitants; each and all have said that these natives for years have been good and law-abiding people, and they are hard-working people, who have improved their places and homes. There may be, here and there, one or two people who may, in private, as private individuals, have a complaint against one or two individuals on account of a quarrel of some kind. Such would, and cannot be, *Vox populi, vox Dei* ("The voice of the people is the voice of God"). We may expect differences of opinion in reference to conquered races. Some white people may speak and use spiteful language in regard to native people. We know there are some who call them "Niggers," and so forth, although they have their proper name—Native—to be called by. We, as natives, know at once the difference of gentlemen born from ungentlemanly white persons by the use of that very word. A true gentleman will never use that word. He will always use "Native" instead of "Nigger." So such we do not even bring in matters of such grave and important nature as the one on which we are endeavouring to give evidence before your honoured body, as I believe your honoured body to be above such inferiority.

So, honoured gentlemen of the Native Affairs Administration Bill Commission, I beg humbly that the Evaton and Klip Town Townships be included in the Native Areas demarcated and be declared as such for the reasons I have endeavoured to lay before your honoured body this morning.

Honoured Sirs, one word more and I have finished.

I need not remind your honoured body that our sons, brothers and cousins, who are now in France, and some of them who left us in these Townships, and some of them may be owners of the properties, have been addressed by our noble King in these famous, memorable and ever-to-be-remembered words:

"You are also a part of a great Army, fighting for Liberty and Freedom of my subjects of all races and creeds throughout the Empire."

Now, honoured gentlemen of the Commission, on the face of these words of our noble King, I ask: Would it be right and just for those of our people in France, to whom these memorable words of the King were addressed, to come back here and find that their brothers and families whom they left on these Townships have been removed and relegated to those feverish unhealthy regions in the north of the Transvaal? Would not that be a great disgrace to the great Empire and a mockery to the words of our great and noble King?



So it is hoped—and thanking your honoured body in anticipation—that the Commission of the Native Affairs Administration Bill will seriously consider this matter, and will not, I am sure, do anything in their power that is unjust to any people, whether they be white or black, but will surely recommend to the Government the inclusion of Evaton and Klip Town Townships to the Native Areas and be demarcated as such with such additional grounds for grazing and burial purposes in connection with them as they are required.

I have the honour to be,

Honoured Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

(sgd.) EDW. TSEWU,  
Secretary and Delegate.

Offices of the Magistrate,  
Heilbron.

To all J.P.'s.  
Evaton.

21st August, 1914.

Sir,

On behalf of the Government, I have the honour to request your assistance in allaying any feeling of unrest which may be felt by the natives of this district, in regard to rumours which may have reached them as to the existence of a state of war in His Majesty's Dominions. I am instructed to send the following message from General Botha:—

"A state of war with Germany does at present exist and the forces of the Empire in Europe are actively engaged with His Majesty's enemies. There is, however, little probability at present of any trouble which need seriously affect the natives in the Union of South Africa, although there may for a time be considerable disturbance in commercial conditions, curtailing in certain directions the opportunities of employment for natives. The Government, therefore, trusts that the natives will display their customary loyalty to His Majesty and the Union of South Africa by going quietly about their daily work and paying no heed to idle rumours, resting assured that the Government as heretofore will carefully watch over their interests in common with those of the other inhabitants of the Union. General Botha will at all times be prepared through his officials to furnish any further information which may be sought as the situation develops and to explain as far as is in his power any points which may seem obscure."

In conclusion, General Botha desires the following message which has been sent by His Majesty the King to all His subjects beyond the seas to be communicated to the natives:—

"I desire to express to my people of the Overseas Dominions with what appreciation and pride I have read the messages from their respective Governments during the last few days. Their spontaneous assurances of their fullest support recall to me the generous self-sacrificing help given by them in the past to the Mother Country. I shall be strengthened in the discharge of the great responsibilities which rest upon me by the belief that in this time of trial my Empire will stand united, calm, resolute, trusting in God."

EDWARD READING,  
Magistrate.

#### ANNEXURE "H."

Kalkpan No. 271.

P.O. Zwartfontein,

Ward Bushfield,

Zeerust.

15th November, 1917.

To the Members

of the Western Transvaal Natives Lands Committee.  
Pretoria.

Petition of the Dwarsberg Farmers' Association, *re* Native Area  
No. 8, Marico District.

Dear Sirs,

The Dwarsberg Farmers' Association held a meeting at Welgevonden No. 241 on Saturday, 10th November last, to consider a recommendation in regard to Native Area No. 8.

As the additional area, as explained in the annexure of the Bill is situate nearly all in ward Bushveld, the Association feels it its duty to take action to watch for the interests of its members and surroundings.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

When it became known that you, dear Sirs, would take evidence at Zeerust, the Association delegated its Chairman and Secretary, Mr. Lavin, to give evidence on behalf of the Association, and you are aware of the fact that both representatives disapproved of the whole of the Additional Area of Area No. 8, and that they attempted to state before your Commission the reasons for such disapproval.

As at the hearing of witnesses at Zeerust, recommendations have been submitted in regard to Area No. 8, and that parties concerned were of opinion that the additional area is inadequate, and that an enlargement of the additional area should be made, and as the Association is of opinion that you would most probably decide to determine an additional area and make a recommendation to the Government, we, therefore, as a body, would kindly request you to allow us to make the three following recommendations.

We recommend:—

- (a) That the following farms should be included in the additional area, viz.:—Matjisvallei No. 205, Dam van Metsugo No. 54, Welverdiend No. 201, Buispoort No. 319, Brakpan No. 200, Witfontein No. 1, Bosmanskraal No. 259, and Klipfontein No. 222.
- (b) That the following farms should *not* be included in the additional area:—Driefontein No. 26, Rietpan No. 270, Driehoek No. 21, Kalkpan No. 271, Witkleigat No. 273, Buitenkuil No. 244, Zwartkopfontein No. 328, Kanfontein No. 249, Allewyn Kop No. 94, Schoonlaagte No. 250, Wildebeestkop No. 252, and Schuinsdam No. 131.
- (c) In case the Committee is of opinion that the Additional Area as recommended in (a) is inadequate, we recommend that a new Native Area be formed to be chosen from the following farms: Nicolaasdoorns No. 157, Hartebeestfontein No. 195, Vinkrivier No. 152, Slaailaagte No. 175, Wonderboom No. 110, Uitval No. 251, Mooifontein No. 2, Boschrand No. 8, Kalkfontein No. 207, Melorane No. 174, Leenwenhoek No. 153, Zunizuni No. 290, Weltevreden No. 45, Mooigenoeg No. 312, Brakspruit No. 162, Turfsloot No. 161, Naauwpoort No. 160, Kopfontein No. 262, and Braklaagte No. 158.

Praying and trusting that our recommendation will receive your earnest and favourable consideration,

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

"The Dwarsberg Farmers' Association,"  
per D. J. DE WAAL,  
Chairman.

#### ANNEXURE "1."

Private Bag Europafrie,  
P.O. Treurfontein,  
Lichtenburg District,  
12th November, 1917.

The Chairman, Native Affairs  
Administration Bill Commission,  
Lichtenburg.

Dear Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to my experience in this country. I have been born here and educated on different farms. All my life I have been farming and worked with Colonial and Transvaal natives.

During the last two years I have been the representative and Manager of the "African and European Investment Coy., Ltd." I have under my management 43 farms and my instructions are to replace natives wherever possible by Europeans, who are willing to work and have some knowledge of farming and to settle the natives on other open lands.

In connection herewith I have read in the papers that the Government intends to segregate the natives, and, in many instances, to deprive them of their land, on which they have been living for years and where even many of their children have been born.

Could the Government not find a better way to settle such a serious matter? It will handicap the natives and Europeans as well. It would also be unfair towards such natives who may have lived on these farms for many years; the landowners also always obtain their labourers from these natives. Would it not be possible for the Government *not* to try and pass this Bill in the next sitting of Parliament, but to wait until the war is over? Then without doubt a better way out could be found to segregate the natives and to settle them on lands, such as in Basutoland, Zwaziland and Khama in Bechuanaland, also with Linchwe in the northern Transvaal, all separate from the European population.

The present intention of the Government according to the map is to divide the whole of the Transvaal right through from East to West and give the natives many farms on which Europeans have lived for many years. This also would be very unfair towards such

Europeans, for I have made a promise to many of them, living on the farms of the Company (and with the approval of the Company), that they could stay there as long as they wished, under the condition that they had to improve the farms; if this law comes into force I shall have to go back and inform them that the Government has passed a law to the effect that they have to move from these farms and will be replaced by natives.

These are the reasons why I submit this statement.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant.

(sgd.) L. D. VAN WIJK.

#### ANNEXURE "K."

To the Secretary  
of the Christiana Agricultural Association,  
Christiana.  
Alpha, P.O. Christiana,  
21st November, 1917.

*re* Native Affairs Administration Bill.

Dear Sir,

The farms which we object being handed over are the farms Kokomeng, Magwagwe, Panmure and Tweelingspan, situate between the Transvaal boundary and Taungs Native Reserve, and used by the natives of Taungs Native Reserve. Our objections are that the natives living on these farms are causing a lot of trouble to the farmers who are living near the Transvaal boundary by theft of cattle, the roaming about of their dogs on the farms in the Transvaal where sheep are being devoured, etc. Formerly it was agreed between the late S.A. Republic and the Government of the Cape Colony that no natives should be allowed on these farms, but that the farms should be given to Europeans. We now advise that these farms should be occupied by Europeans.

2. On the eastern side of the Harts River there are some farms which resort under the district of Barkly West and are being used for grazing purposes by the natives of the Reserve West Harts River; but while these farms are situate between territories, occupied by Europeans, it would be very inconvenient if the farms remain a portion of the Native Reserve. While the natives are not cultivating the ground, I am of opinion that the Reserve should be extended to the north-west of Taungs and be limited north, east and south-eastward; such would be more suitable for the natives themselves and also be convenient for the neighbouring Europeans.

(sgd.) A. P. BURGERS.

#### ANNEXURE "L."

P.O. Box 25,  
Ventersdorp,  
Transvaal.  
10th December, 1917.

Mort Jooste.

To the Secretary,  
Western Transvaal Native Land Committee,  
Room No. 5, Artillery Barracks,  
Pretoria.

*re* Zwartkop No. 605, District Potchefstroom.

Sir,

When your Commission was taking evidence at Ventersdorp I informed the Commission that the natives residing on the above farm and being the owners thereof were also anxious to have their rights recognised and defined. Owing to a misapprehension of the position, however, no one excepting the Native Wesleyan Minister, the Rev. Motuba, was present to tender evidence in this connection. I, however, obtained leave from your Commission to put in a formal application in writing on behalf of the natives concerned at a later stage, and having now been duly instructed to that effect I am tendering this letter.

It will be seen that no provision has been made in respect of the natives who are in occupation of the above farm Zwartkop by a previous Commission appointed to make enquiries in connection with the Native Land Bill. The reason for this omission is not quite clear as the natives have been in occupation and have owned above farm for a number of years. They desire to have their tenure made certain and, further, if the Commission should consider that such is desirable, then the natives also suggest that some latitude shall be granted to them in the direction of being permitted to acquire a certain amount of adjoining land—say, so much as the Commission may deem desirable—which will provide additional accommodation for the natural increase in their numbers.

[U.G. 23—'18.]



I take it that the evidence taken by your Commission in respect of the number of natives residing on the property, etc., will be before you, and it is unnecessary to reiterate this.

Should, however, your Commission desire to have further information on any point connected with the matter, I shall esteem it a favour if you will kindly apprise me.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

(sgd.) MORT JOOSTE.

P.S.—Authority from the Chief of the tribe is attached hereto.

Telephone 3367.

From Rev. W. F. Hill, C.R.,  
The Priory, Rosettenville.

Statement of Evidence given  
before Western Transvaal Lands Committee. Johannesburg.

We suppose that we may discuss with this Committee the native areas in Rustenburg, Marico and Lichtenburg Districts.

(1) On the general question we wish to emphasize a statement which was made by our representative before the Select Committee at Capetown, viz., that the Government having, primarily for the good of the European population of the Union, decided upon a policy of separate areas for white and native occupation, can only justify such a policy by a generous treatment of the native people in the matter of areas.

In the evidence given before the Beaumont Commission and in the published evidence given to the Select Committee we can find very little sign on the part of the Europeans to make any sacrifices for the carrying out of this policy. The general impression which the evidence conveys is (1) that Europeans desire to set aside as little land as possible for native occupation, and that for the most part in unhealthy and unfertile parts of the Transvaal, and (2) that a temporary difficulty with regard to cheap native labour on the farms is of greater importance than a just settlement of this great question. We see very little evidence of a broad and generous view of the question.

One of our correspondents remarks: "The future of the Europeans in South Africa is dependent upon a satisfied and peaceful native race. The method of segregation will determine the behaviour of the native. What is the use of a few more farms on the European side, if you have with them an unsatisfied native race, perpetually troubling the Government with grievances?"

We maintain that the natives in the western part of the Transvaal have a very real grievance against the Land Schedule of this Bill.

(2) With regard to the Rustenburg areas proposed by the Beaumont Commission. We would quote the words of one of our correspondents, a Missionary living in that area:—

"The Rustenburg areas are not large enough. They include enough land for cultivation, but not enough land for pasturage. In some parts there is a deficiency of water. I suggest an increase of farms to the different reserves by the method of combining the small reserves into one large reserve. Ramakoko's Location ought to fall into the native area. And then Mamogales Location ought to adjoin Mokgatle's Location by going over the Sterkstroom towards the Hex River. Mokgatle's Location ought to adjoin the large reserve by going towards Sautspoor. That would be about 10 farms extra for native areas so as to effect a joining up of the different reserves."

We are of opinion that the Rustenburg areas, as they stand, are insufficient even for present needs and no provision is made for increased population and individual occupation in the future.

(3) The Lichtenburg and Marico areas were provided we gather from evidence given before the Beaumont Commission, to supply the pressing need for accommodation of natives scattered about over those Magisterial districts.

But no such provision is made for Bloemhof, Potchefstroom, and Wolmaransstad Magisterial districts.

In the important district of Potchefstroom alone there is a rural population of 31,745 natives. The great majority of whom are native farmers, that is, they live on the white man's farm, are granted small portions of land which they plough, their crops being equally divided between the white man and native tenant. I want to call the special attention of the Committee to these natives. Most of them live respectably, they have a good type of house, are clean, honest, and Godfearing.

On nearly every farm in this district there is some church, and in every small part of the district there is some Christian school.

The whole community practically is Christian.

These people complain bitterly that this Bill allows them no outlet for progress and social development. They are debilitated and have been in this district, some of them for three generations.

They ask for opportunities to purchase land in this district.

They fear a long trek and all the loss involved.

They fear the waterless and malarial country of the northern areas.

They fear the dangers of heathenism.

We feel that their case demands the special attention of the Government.

There ought to be high veld native areas in the west, 10,000 morgen would not be too much.

Even from the point of view of labour supply it would be wise to establish such areas.

*Chairman.*] What do you suggest? Here is a suggestion from 3 missionaries in the district of Potchefstroom:—

"We would suggest, first, that the proportion of land be greatly enlarged and, secondly, that in this district and others, native areas be established. We think, for instance, that in the north-western portion of the Potchefstroom district where the natives already possess two farms facilities might be offered for the further acquirement of land, and again, some farms might be apportioned near the farm Uitkyk?

I would suggest also that Evaton Township should be declared a native area and that farms about it should be also included in that native area.

(4) There are one or two others suggestions of our Association with regard to areas which I should like to read to the Committee.

"With regard to the proposed native areas the Executive after careful consideration would urge upon the Government the advisability of not fixing the boundaries of these areas for all time, but of leaving it open to Parliament, should occasion arise to enlarge or alter them at some future date, for the following reasons:—

1. It is extremely difficult to know, until the Act has been in operation for some time, the number of natives who must be accommodated in these areas.
2. Even though more intensive cultivation is gradually introduced in native areas, and provides support for an increased population, the possibility of such areas becoming overcrowded should be recognized, and nothing done to make impossible their enlargement should circumstances justify it.
3. The population of these areas is bound to increase of its own accord, and be added to by a certain proportion of the children of labour tenants and servants in non-native areas.

Again, although this suggestion does not concern this Committee while the Government presents to the native living within a native area an attractive prospect in the promised introduction of a form of self-government, land tenure, etc., there is very little to counterbalance this in the case of the native labour tenant and servant."

Even the education of his children and his religion are at the mercy of his employer.

The dwellers in urban areas also are left without any real footing in society or any promise of self-government.

W. FRANCIS HILL, C.R.

#### ANNEXURE "M."

Telephone 737.

Telegrams: Wesleyan, Pretoria.

P.O. Box 122,

Pretoria.

Rev. Amos Burnet,

Chairman and General Superintendent

Wesleyan Methodist Church,

Transvaal and Swaziland.

December 29th, 1917.

I am the General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Church in the Transvaal and Swaziland District. That district includes the whole of the Transvaal and Swaziland, and part of Bechuanaland and a section of Portuguese East Africa. I have under my care some 100,000 native people, of whom more than 75,000 are in the Transvaal. The figures for the Transvaal are taken from the report of the Census of 1911, part VI.

I have noted with great regret and alarm that there is no native area in the Potchefstroom district—I refer to the Schedule attached to the Native Administration Bill. Indeed if a line be drawn from Komatipoort to Mafeking it will be seen that almost all the proposed native areas are north of that line. In the healthy and fertile districts of Carolina, Ermelo, Bethal, Heidelberg, Witwatersrand, Potchefstroom, Ventersdorp, Bloemhof, and Klerksdorp, there is no native area provided.

But it will be necessary to confine attention to the Potchefstroom district, as that is the area with which the Western Committee is now dealing. In that district there are [U.G. 23—18.]

about 10,000 natives connected with my own church. These are among our best people. They have lived in this area for generations. Their forefathers stood by the white man in his first conflict with their fierce native enemies. The natives of whom I speak have been detribalized. Many of them have even lost their own language, and speak only Dutch or English. Unless some suitable provision is made for them they will either have to remain as labourers for all time or they must be driven into areas where the climate is unsuitable and the surroundings altogether uncongenial and unattractive. They will have to live amongst people whose language is unknown, whose customs they have long since left behind. They are likely to be forced into an environment where the whole tone of their civilisation is sure to be lowered.

They are greatly attached to the districts in which they were born, and where they have lived and laboured so long.

If suitable areas in the Potchefstroom district were assigned for the occupation of natives the intense opposition to the Bill on their part would be greatly modified.

Uitkyk No. 133 is a Mission farm belonging to my own church, and for nearly forty years has been occupied by our own members, for whom we in the first instance bought the farm. If this could be made the nucleus of a native area it would have a happy effect. An area that might not be large enough for eventual needs would convince the native that the Government is acting in good faith, that it is willing for him to have land that the European would be glad to occupy.

Under the present Schedule one and a quarter million whites take eighty-seven per cent. of the whole country, while thirteen per cent. is left for more than three times the number of natives. And much of that thirteen per cent.—as in Area No. 5—even on the evidence of Government officials is wholly unfit for the purpose in view.

But I am convinced that the delimitation of even moderately sized areas in the better districts would have an immense effect in making the Bill at once more just, and at the same time more acceptable to many who hitherto have opposed it with great determination. It would cut the ground from the feet of the mere agitator, and go far to satisfy the more thoughtful natives.

AMOS BURNET.

#### ANNEXURE "N."

To the Honourable,  
The Minister of Native Affairs,  
Pretoria.

The Petition of the undersigned, owners and occupiers of the farms Rickertsdam No. 203, and Zamenkomst No. 88, both situate in the District of Marico.

Humbly sheweth

That in terms of the report of the Native Lands Commission, the above mentioned farms fall within the area recommended by the said Commission for occupation by natives.

That your petitioners desire to protest against the inclusion of the said farms in the Native Area, for the following reasons:—

The said farms have been occupied by Europeans for many years.

The land under irrigation measures about 500 morgen. This ground has been cleared of bush. Dams and furrows have been constructed, and other improvements have been made at considerable expense.

Your petitioners annex hereto a schedule detailing the names of the owners and occupiers of the said farms, the area occupied, period of occupation, class of farming carried on, improvements effected and value thereof, and average values of the properties per morgen.

In the opinion of your petitioners the occupation of the abovementioned farms by natives would seriously depreciate the value thereof, further improvements would be impeded, and the prospect of the said properties becoming a native reserve would not only detract from their value, but would probably be a serious hinderance to the settlement and improvement of the adjoining farms by Europeans.

Should any owner desire to sell his property at any time, there being only one possible buyer (the native), and no competition, he would be compelled to sell at the price offered by that buyer. Moreover, the fact that the owners will not be permitted to lease the properties to others than natives will entail great hardship on them.

The owners of the adjoining farms would object to their neighbours selling to natives, thereby depreciating the value of their land.

The natives in this district being notoriously idle and unenterprising and poor agriculturists, the result of their occupation of the said properties would be that the lands would be neglected and eventually become overgrown with weeds and bush, and be useless for agricultural purposes, with consequent loss to the district and State.

Should the said farms be allotted to natives many European bijwoners would be deprived of their means of livelihood.



Your petitioners submit that there are immense tracts of country where Europeans have not yet settled, which would be suitable for settlement by natives, and pray that it may please your Honour to take this protest into consideration, and to devise some means whereby the said farms Riekertsdam and Zamenkomst shall be excluded from the area recommended for occupation by natives in terms of the report of the Native Lands Commission.

SIGNED BY OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS.

#### ANNEXURE "O."

To the Chairman and Members  
Of the Western Transvaal Native Land Committee,  
Rustenburg.

Dear Sirs,—

I, the undersigned, Missionary of the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa, herewith beg to bring the following facts under your notice:—

1. I have been living and working already twelve years under the Bakgatla and Batlaku Tribes at Saulspoort, and am well acquainted with their language and traditions.

2. I am representing in this matter, and have been nominated by the General Missionary Commission of aforesaid church, to give evidence before your Commission concerning the proposed Native Bill.

3. I have a serious objection against the area now indicated for native settlement in aforesaid area, specially in regard to that portion which has been given to the aforesaid Bakgatla and Batlaku tribes, as being too small and inadequate. Such is not only my opinion, but of many Europeans, who have not a prejudice against the native.

4. The aforesaid tribes devote themselves to the rearing of cattle, and not much on intensive culture of lands. The cattle of these tribes (between 20,000 and 30,000 heads) are nearly all scattered along the Crocodile and Marico Rivers, and if the area, as now intended and indicated for native area is to be determined, it would mean that all those thousands of cattle have to be transferred to farms where there is no water, and where no rain has fallen during three years in a period of twelve years, and only sufficient to fill a dam of some size. For instance, the big dam of Mr. Samuel Marks, in the Bierspruit, on the farm Bierkraal, has been empty for the last four years. On the area now intended only water could be procured by artificial means, viz., boring, windmills or machinery, and these the natives do not understand at all.

5. My conviction, and also the natives, is that if they are to be removed from the Crocodile River, a series of farms should be given them, along the Marico River, between Laatste Poort and Inmalkaar (Junction). These tribes will thereby be given the opportunity to adjoin their reserve to their own reserve in Bechuanaland. Only a few Europeans are living along the Marico River.

6. Finally, I would not be doing my duty if I did not draw the attention of your Commission to the anxiety existing amongst the tribes aforesaid against the proposed Bill. In the kraals and at their campfires the conversation always turns about the proposed law, and there is no lack of agitators who are inciting them and attributing all kinds of ulterior motives to the Europeans. Nothing whatever has occurred in the last years which has so much upset the minds of the natives as this proposed Bill, and without trying to cause a panic or to be an alarmist, I beg to point out to your Commission that it should be wise to be careful and just in this matter, if it is not the intention to create a wasps' nest.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) GEO. P. STEGMANN,  
Missionary, Dutch Reformed Church in S.A.

#### ANNEXURE "P."

#### PETITION.

To the Chairman and Members  
Of the Committee of the Orange Free State Native Affairs.

Gentlemen,—

We, the undersigned, humbly pray our Government to deproclaim the Gathlose Native Reserve as a reserve, and to distribute the same to white farmers.

It is a well known fact that the present situation of this location is absolutely undesirable, and it lies hemmed in between white farmers, and there is continual friction between us and the natives.

[U.G. 23—'18.]

It is also a fact that only a very small portion of this location is actually being used. We would like to appear before your meeting at Kuruman to submit our interest to you.

We have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

(Sgd.) J. H. STEYN and 31 OTHERS.

#### ANNEXURE "R."

A. Z. Mokoole.

A teacher in the D.R.M. School, Boshof.  
And a Secretary of the Boshof Branch Native Congress.

The Right Hon. Commissioners of the  
Native Land Act of the Union of South Africa.

What I have here is a petition signed by 481 natives of the locations, and both Boshof and Hoopstad district.

Petition is about the land laying between Boshof and Hoopstad district.

I am not going to say much about the district Hoopstad, because we know it is one of the agricultural districts. Its soil is fertile right through the district. Regards the Boshof district, it is bounded in the west by the Griqualand West and British Bechuanaland.

The district consists of two cl. of veld. The lower veld Zwartland, consisting of Karoo bushes, and suitable for pastoral only. The zandveld in the north of the district, joining the Hoopstad district, is the chief agricultural district produce. The veld suits any class of people.

Your petitioners pray most humbly, Native Commission of the 7th November, 1917, at Boshof, to represent our petition on a meeting held on the 7th October, 1917, to the Union Government, that on such places a certain sub-division of land should be given us as to have a safe from roaming place, as that happened many times, to the natives who owned livestock.

I think health must be obtained by any person from any of the adjacent district.

There is only one native location in the town of the district, and that is the Municipal location on which natives through following conditions are unable to stay.

Municipal tax and passports.

Unability to support their families or overaged ones.

Paying Government tax under difficult.

Through all these hardships natives are subjected to a wandering life, they are brought home and turned to the veld by difficulties. All these cause unhappy living to natives in both locations and districts.

We do not know what steps Commission will take about it. We ask Commission to forward our grievances to the Government, and make it clear that it should not be forgotten that when South Africa was in great want of peace we also did something good for him. The very natives who are to-day wandering about in search of resting places are the very those who were white men's friends in those days.

Government should remember that they were friendly enough to every white man, even farmers should bear the fact in their minds, that their farming shortly after that got on through native hands, whose cry to-day is a supreme from one end of South Africa to the other, under a whiteman's oppression. Why should there be a line between us as distinction of colour? Is that far from slavery? Men and women are spent with toil till in their useless days, after which they require their relatives' provision.

We are a nation and do not want to be destroyed without a reason. We belong to the Government, and it is the duty of each Empire to protect its subjects.

We do not mean to be separated altogether from our white masters, or being sent away to some unknown districts or countries, through which by it shall remain opposed to both health and unknown difficulties.

We hope the best for a reserve, as being a place for us to bring up our children in better condition.

I am desired by the natives residents of both Boshof and Hoopstad districts to convey on their behalf to the Land Act Commission the following representations:

The statement embodies the view of the natives of the above districts as expressed in the meeting held on the 6th and 7th October, 1917, and it reads as follows:-

The Government policy of the territorial separation of whites and blacks is not refused by us, but would prefer that of equality of opportunity for all His Majesty's subjects throughout the Union irrespective of colour.

That the lying between Boshof and Hoopstad districts be set apart as native reserve.

That if there is no native reserve in the district just mentioned, we anticipate a great inconvenience and difficulty in the near future to obtain a native labour supply from

other districts elsewhere—that under the circumstances above told there is no alternative but to most strongly apply and support the proposal of the Commission in 1913, that a native land area be established in these districts.

We suggest that the reserve in question should be proportionate to the number of the natives, and be granted under some form of self-government. The township be situated where water supply is obtainable.

Boshof, O.F.S.,

7th November, 1918.

The Right Hon. Commissioners of the  
Native Land Act of the Union of South Africa.

We, the undersigned, natives of the various tribes residing at the Boshof and Hoopstad Municipal Locations and the districts, beg to petition you most humbly on your sitting on the 7th November, 1917, at the Boshof Court as follows:—

Your petitioners are taxpayers in the Boshof and Hoopstad districts, and pray the Native Land Act Commissioners to represent our petition to the Union Government as follows:—

1. We petition for the land between Boshof and Hoopstad to be a Native Reserve.
  2. We request the Commission to approach the Government and make our grievances clear that the Act cause native people to be derelicts and helpless, as far as native is concerned.
  3. Seeing that an old faithful native servant who spent most of his life time on farms has become quite paralyzed by this Act, when he has no child to work for the farmer, and that he cannot live on the farm, simply because he is without a child.
  4. That the farmer will not engage the average native who is in possession of live-stock, and is told, there is no place for him—he is a baas himself.
- And that by this reason the native is compelled to sell his stock for whatever he can get, in order to obtain employment, as he has no refuge.

Sgd. A. Z. MOKOELE (Secr.).

(Signed by about 545 natives).



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